

FOOTBALL
COLLEGE
VE...
N...
M...

Kenham

ours



cepts cha
ure indoc

FREE
REPORT
R KIN
in you enjoy the
of a report Hotel
100% ONLY
39.50
ROOM PER NIGHT
100% ONLY

BOOK NOW ON
45 40 40 40
100% ONLY

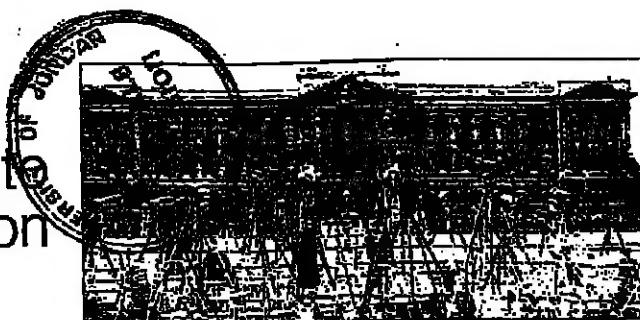
ORTE



THE FUTURE

John Grigg looks to the next coronation

Page 18



THE PRESS

Were the tabloids really to blame?

Page 5

BOOKS ON
THURSDAY
Section 2
pages 36-37

THE TIMES

No. 64,512

THURSDAY DECEMBER 10 1992

45p

Separation but no divorce for prince and princess

Queen Mother will go to Scotland

By Alan Hamilton

The separation of the Prince and Princess of Wales, announced to a hushed Commons by the prime minister, raises the prospect of a king without a queen

By Alan Hamilton and Nicholas Wood

THE Prince and Princess of Wales are to separate after 11 years of marriage, it was announced yesterday, completing the Queen's *annus horribilis* and casting a shadow over the Princess Royal's impending wedding.

The announcement, whose only major surprise was in its timing, was made simultaneously by Buckingham Palace and by the prime minister in the Commons, where there were gasps of disbelief when John Major said the separation need not prevent the princess becoming queen.

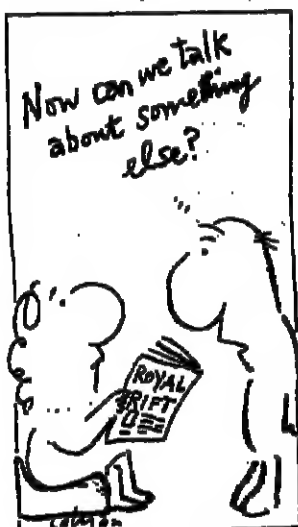
The statement made clear that the decision to lead separate lives had been reached

ing Street officials disclosed that Mr Major had been involved in discussions over the future of the marriage for a few weeks, the message was reinforced, with senior aides saying that as the wife of the Prince of Wales, the princess would become queen when Prince Charles succeeded his mother.

While the announcement confirmed what had long been known in royal circles, its timing — undoubtedly approved by the Queen — caused considerable surprise yesterday. Officially, the decision was made public to clear the air before Prince William, 10, and Prince Harry, 8, break up from school on Sunday. The children had been told about the separation and will divide their Christmas holiday between their parents.

However, not only did the announcement destroy whatever positive public relations might have flowed by the Princess Royal's wedding on Saturday, but it also distracted the prime minister from his preparations for the European summit in Edinburgh at the end of this week.

Mr Major has been involved in discussions with Buckingham Palace over the future of the marriage for a few weeks and in the past week has seen both the prince and the princess separately. Matters came to a head on Tuesday night, when the prime minister was told that the palace was likely to make an announcement yesterday. He then postponed meetings with the European Commission president, Jacques Delors scheduled for yesterday afternoon, and summoned a group of senior ministers to Downing Street for a briefing at 10 o'clock yesterday morning.



amicably, that both would continue to carry out full and separate public lives, and that both would participate fully in the upbringing of their two children. The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, although saddened, understood and sympathised with the decision, and hoped that intrusions into the couple's privacy would cease.

Mr Major told the Commons that the decision carried no constitutional implications. "The succession to the throne is unaffected by it. The children of the prince and princess retain their position in the line of succession and there is no reason why the Princess of Wales should not be crowned queen in due course. The Prince of Wales's succession as head of the Church of England is also unaffected."

The prime minister's assessment of the princess's future provoked an audible intake of breath by MPs, particularly those on the Labour benches, although it was not directly challenged. Later, as Down-

The first to be told by the prime minister included Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, Norman Lamont, the chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, the home secretary, Lord Wakeham, the Lords leader, Sir Nicholas Lyell, the attorney-general, and Richard Ryder, the chief whip. Other cabinet ministers were alerted once the meeting was over. John Smith, the Labour leader, was also forewarned, and delayed his departure for Edinburgh to meet other socialist leaders.

Mr Major concluded that the separation does not affect the constitution after previously consulting Lord Mackay, Sir Nicholas, Dr George Carey, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and Sir Robin Butler, the cabinet secretary.

In the Commons, Mr Major, John Smith and Paddy Ashdown all expressed sympathy and understanding for the royal couple, and Dr Carey later also emphasised his support for the prince and princess on behalf of the church.



Separate ways: the prince and princess at the Royal Variety Show in London on Monday, their last joint engagement before yesterday's announcement

'It is announced ... with regret'

The following statement was released by Buckingham Palace yesterday and read by John Major to the House of Commons in full:

"It is announced from Buckingham Palace that, with regret, the Prince and Princess of Wales have decided to separate. Their Royal Highnesses have no plans to divorce and their constitutional positions are unaffected. This decision has been reached amicably, and they will both continue to participate fully in the upbringing of their children."



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

He said the prince's succession as head of the Church of England was in no way affected.

The couple's most earnest, if perhaps vain, hope is that by making public a private situation which has existed *de facto* for several years, they will defuse and diminish the relentless barrage of tabloid newspaper intrusion, speculation and occasional pure invention that has propelled a marriage from the simply difficult to the positively intolerable. Body blows to the royal privacy this year alone have included the disclosure of the so-called "Squidgygate" tapes allegedly involving a private telephone conversation between the Princess and another man, the publication of Andrew Morton's book *Diana: Her True Story*, and the disclosure of another taped telephone conversation said to be between the Prince and Mrs Camilla Parker-Bowles, a longstanding friend.

Buckingham Palace said last night: "We are not suggesting that the media are to blame, but the cumulative effect of years of intrusive coverage has created an atmosphere that makes life intolerable." Palace sources were also emphatic that the announcement had not been precipitated by the involvement of any third parties. The palace appealed to the press to let the

prince and princess alone, especially where their children were involved. "What is important above all is that their Royal Highnesses hope that the media will respect their privacy as a family."

The decision was taken after lawyers had been consulted on the personal and constitutional position of the Prince and Princess. It is a legal rather than a judicial separation, and Palace sources indicated that there was no question at this stage of any settlement being drawn up to distribute goods, chattels or other assets.

The separation almost certainly marks an end to joint tours abroad as well as joint "awayday" visits in the United

Kingdom — the couple yesterday fulfilled public engagements 270 miles apart, the prince attending a business conference in Holyhead while the princess visited a project for drug and alcohol abusers in Whitby Bay. Immediately after his engagement the Prince flew by helicopter to his sons' school, Ludgrove, in Berkshire, to speak to them about the news. Last night he attended a ceremony at the Guildhall, in London to commemorate the BBC's 60th

Continued on page 2, col 8

Full analysis, pages 2-5
John Grigg, page 18
Diary, page 18
Leading article, page 19

N&P's VISA CARD - NO FEE WITH THE BEE...



...AND A LOW INTEREST RATE.

Why pay up to £12 for your credit card when N&P's VISA Card has no fee and a low rate of interest of 1.81% per month (APR 24.0%) which will be even lower from 15 January 1993 at 1.65% per month (APR 21.6%)! For further details of how N&P's VISA Card could make a difference call our helpline now, free, between 8 am and 8 pm, on

0800 50 60 70



No-one's busier on your behalf

N&P VISA Card interest rates are 1.81% per month (24.0% APR). From 15 January 1993 the interest rate will be 1.65% per month (21.6% APR). The APR is variable. Minimum monthly payments are 5% of outstanding balance (minimum £5.00). N&P VISA Card is only available to persons over 18. Credit is available subject to credit checks. Terms and conditions apply. For full details see the back of the card. N&P is a member of the National & Provincial Building Society. National & Provincial Building Society, Bedford BN1 1HL.

Somalis marvel at US firepower

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

HEAVILY armed American troops secured all key positions in the Somali capital, Mogadishu, yesterday, as the gangs of gunmen melted away and large crowds gathered to welcome the marines and to marvel at the formidable display of firepower.

The 18,000 marines and equipment were ferried in at dawn from an offshore task force by helicopters and amphibious vessels. It was the

US Marine Corps' first amphibious landing since the 1983 Grenada invasion.

Within hours the first giant American transport planes began landing in Mogadishu, bringing the lighting and navigation equipment required for round-the-clock operations at the airport. The first of an additional 15,000 marines will start arriving today from California.

Colin Powell, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, told President Bush that Operation Restore Hope was "on

track, on schedule and going as planned". Mr Bush said the Somali people had been "appreciative and responsive" to the American effort. Richard Cheney, the defence secretary, said the operation had gone very smoothly. "If everything goes as well as it has overnight, then I think we can look forward to begin withdrawing our combat forces before the end of January, maybe even sooner."

Welcome sourced, page 15
Ben Macintyre, page 18

Major rallies EC leaders

NEW British proposals to resolve Denmark's problems over the Maastricht treaty will enable the European Community "to go forward as 12", John Major said last night (Philip Webster writes).

The plans, designed to calm Danish fears of a loss of sovereignty, are seen by London as the key to a successful agreement at the Edinburgh summit tomorrow and Saturday. The proposals meet some of the objections raised by Denmark to the original British draft, and also tackle the concerns of member

countries that fear Copenhagen is being granted too many concessions.

Senior ministers also confirmed yesterday that Britain would be tabling new budget proposals before the summit starts in the hope of reaching a compromise on the other contentious issue on the agenda. These will include a revision of the figures in the original British plan that suggested that EC spending should rise to £60.5 billion by 1999.

Winning over Danes, page 11
French aim, page 12



9 770140 046244

The prime minister confirmed what the

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

Domestic drama proves chilling news for peers

Few of us with distressing family news to impart can expect such grand messengers as yesterday conveyed the royal news indirectly to the nation. Where other couples might pay for a small insert in the Personal classified section of the local paper, this couple had the PM nip down to the Commons with the news, and the Lord Chancellor drop into the House of Lords to let peers know.

Your sketchwriter watched from the press gallery in the Upper Chamber as their lordships crowded in and jostled round the throne to hear the penny drop. Bishops hovered anxiously. The air was rent with the sort of high-pitched electronic whistle that sends dogs mad, as a variety of hearing aids, turned to maximum volume, were pressed against a variety of noble ears. Lord Mackay of Clashfern rose to tell us what we had already guessed.

It cannot be said that peers liked it. There was a very faint gasp as the Lord Chancellor said that the separation did not affect the possibility that the royal couple might be king and queen. When he said that they were now entitled to a little privacy, there was a gentle moan of sympathy, for their lordships do not like *The Sun* at all. However, when he quoted the PM's expression of support and sympathy, there was absolute silence: not a hear-ear to be heard. Almost audible was the thought among them that many of one's friends don't get on — indeed Lord and Lady Thistledown have been barely on speaking terms and living in separate wings of Thistledown House at Thistledown Magna for as long as one can remember, but nobody has ever felt the need for a public statement.

This sort of thing is not good for the monarchy. And what is the monarchy but the foundation stone of the extensive and rambling structure we call the aristocracy and of which some of those assembled in the chamber are crumbling outer battlements, isolated towers, lonely hunting lodges or amusing follies? Touch the monarch, peers thought, and the whole structure trembles. Hearing aids were pressed a little more anxiously to grizzled ears.

Nobody really wanted to say anything. For Labour,

its new Leader in the Lords, Lord Richard, mumbled about "regret and sadness" and snarled something about "the tabloids" ("heart, heart") and sat down. For the Liberal Democrats, Lord Jenkins of Hillhead rose and said that he was not going to say anything, but said it in a very grave and noble way, and sat down.

From the absent Archbishop of Canterbury in Kuala Lumpur came a message delivered by the Archbishop of York, Dr Habgood rose and for three or four minutes gently buried himself and his presumed intellect in a blizzard of confused abstract nouns. "Sharing... sorrow... unique and stressful expectations... implications... compassion... pain... the lesser evil... comfort... strength... way forward..." — a soft, remorseless snowfall burying sense.

After this, a great many of them left. The debate on Hong Kong and China resumed. Lady Chalker, whose speeches are intoned like Collects for the day, defended the governor. For Labour, the elegant but strangely irritating Lady Blackstone whined sanctimoniously for 15 minutes, trying to be both for democracy and against it, and concluded with a series of complaints with the internal consistency of Esther Rantzen's *That's Life*. The Liberal Democrat Lord Holme told us that he had been to China, told us some facts about China, and anticipated the "positive avalanche of experience and wisdom" waiting on the Lords benches to speak. Over the floor, the positive avalanche, in blue twin-set and pearls, smiled graciously.

A former governor of Hong Kong, Lord Wilson, showed in his maiden speech that decades of inscrutable Chinese metaphors had got to him. He compared the colony's future to a great river, in which "the present difficulties" were rocks or eddies that we must navigate round in our splendid progress to the sea. Whether he saw himself as a rock, an eddy, or one of the deeper stretches, he was too modest to say.

Lady Avalancha of Grantham spoke next. She congratulated the ex-governor on his maiden speech. Then she congratulated herself on appointing him.



End of the dream: public affection between the couple ended when his kiss missed its mark

Tense silence in the Commons as news is broken to nation

By ROBERT MORGAN
POLITICAL STAFF

A HUSHED and tense House of Commons was united in expressions of sympathy for the Prince and Princess of Wales yesterday as John Major told MPs the couple were to separate.

The prime minister, surrounded by most of the cabinet, was heard in almost total silence as he repeated the statement, issued simulta-

neously by Buckingham Palace, announcing the separation and ending months of speculation.

Westminster had been gripped with anticipation since news spread at around 12.45pm that Mr Major was to deliver a special statement and had called off his talks with Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, in order to do so.

The only sound during Mr Major's short statement was a gasp of surprise when he said there was no reason why the Princess of Wales should not be crowned queen in due course.

The House heard that the royal couple would continue to carry out "full and separate programmes of public engagements and would from time to time attend family occasions and national events together".

Mr Major told the House that "the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, although saddened, understood and sympathised with the difficulties that had led to this decision".

Party leaders joined the prime minister in calling for understanding, but a discordant note was struck by two prominent left-wingers who used the occasion to make political points.

After reading the official statement, Mr Major said: "I am sure that I speak for the whole House, and millions beyond it, in offering our

support to both the Prince and Princess of Wales. I am also sure that the House will sympathise with the wish that they should both be afforded a degree of privacy."

"The House will wish to know that the decision to separate has no constitutional implications. The succession to the throne is unaffected by it; the children of the prince and princess retain their position in the line of succession and there is no reason why the Princess of Wales should not be crowned queen in due course. The Prince of Wales's succession as head of the Church of England is also unaffected. Neither the prince nor the

princess is supported by the Civil List and this position will remain unchanged."

"I know that there will be great sadness at this news. But I know also that, as they continue with their royal duties and bringing up their children, the prince and princess will have the full support, understanding and affection of this House and of the country."

John Smith, leader of the Opposition, said: "I am sure that the whole House will share the feeling of sadness the prime minister has expressed at the announcement of the separation."

"I also share the hope that a

greater degree of privacy may result for the Prince and Princess of Wales and their children in what would be a difficult time for any family. We associate ourselves entirely with the expression of support for the Prince and Princess of Wales in the carrying out of their public duties," said Mr Smith.

Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, said: "These are going to be difficult times for the royal family and the whole House will wish to extend to them our sympathy, in particular to the Prince and Princess of Wales."

Sir Edward Heath, the former prime minister, said: "It must be one of the saddest announcements made by any prime minister in modern times."

A bitter note was introduced by Robert Crier, Labour MP for Bradford South, who said that hundreds of thousands of ordinary people went through similar strain and difficulty. "Poor housing, low pay and rotten conditions of employment place on such marriages far, far and away greater strains and it would be a welcome day when the government brought a statement here to relieve those strains and not just this narrow royal family."

Dennis Skinner, Labour MP for Bolsover, said the most controversial thing was that there would be no constitutional changes. "It

would be fair to say that as a result of the occurrences over the past several months and the pushing of the self-destruct button by the monarchy, that we could now be witnessing the end of the monarchy. The reigning Queen could possibly be the last."

"And it would not be something that could be blamed on people like those of us who believe there is no need for a monarchy in this land now. In view of that, could I ask the prime minister to bear in mind that this shattering announcement will result in changes in our constitution and that it is high time that we stopped this charade of swearing allegiance to the Queen and her heirs and successors because we do not know from time to time who they are."

"Mr Major retorted sharply: "Mr Skinner does not, I believe, speak for the nation or any significant part of it. The affection for the monarchy and members of the royal family in this country is deep, widespread and is enduring. We live in a monarchy and, if I may speak personally, I hope and believe we always will."

In the House of Lords there were similar expressions of sadness as peers had heard the statement read by Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor.

The Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood, speaking for himself and George Carey, the Archbishop of Canterbury, who is abroad, said: "We share the great sorrow this announcement will cause to the Church and nation. We ask the public to join us in praying that God will bring comfort and strength to the prince and princess, to their children and the wider royal family."

"In the case of unsuccessful marriages, the Church of England accepts that there are sometimes circumstances, however sad, where separation is the lesser evil and the best way forward."

"Questions may be raised about the implications of the separation for His Royal Highness's position as future Supreme Governor of the Church of England. From a legal viewpoint, marital status does not affect the succession to the throne and hence the title of Supreme Governor. The monarch is Supreme Governor by virtue of being sovereign," he said.

Palace regrets couple's parting

Continued from page 1

anniversary. The Princess spent the evening at Kensington Palace.

The couple will, however, continue to appear together at important formal occasions, beginning tomorrow night when both will join the Queen and other members of the royal family on board the royal yacht *Britannia* in Leith docks for a banquet in honour of European heads of government attending the Edinburgh summit. There was no confirmation last night whether they would then travel north with other members of the royal family to attend the Princess Royal's wedding. They will also continue to be seen together at such occasions as the state opening of Parliament and Remembrance Sunday at the Cenotaph. As she remains a full member of the royal family, the princess will continue to receive the usual invitations to Balmoral and Sandringham, although whether she will accept them is another matter.

Otherwise their lives will follow a pattern that has already been discreetly established. The prince will live at Highgrove, where he already spends most of his time and which the princess disliked, and will be given an apartment in Clarence House, official residence of his grandmother, Queen Elizabeth, for use when he is in London.

The princess will live at Kensington Palace, already her usual home, where she may be expected to gather an "alternative court" around her.

The couple's public lives will continue to be serviced from their joint office in St James's Palace. The princess is likely to adopt a considerably higher public profile in her own right and to take on many more official engagements.

John Grigg, page 18
Diary, page 18
Leading article, page 18

Major shoulders his duty to advise and protect the Crown

By PETER RIDDELL, POLITICAL EDITOR

JOHN Major's decision to make a statement in the House of Commons about the royal separation was not just a formality, a dignified expression of conventional pieties. He wanted the support of the House, since he knows there are potentially serious implications for the constitution.

Mr Major has been closely involved for some time in the discussions about the royal marriage, not just with the Queen but also the Prince and Princess of Wales.

One senior minister said that while Mr Major had kept these matters to himself, they had taken up a lot of time in spite of all the prime minister's other distractions this autumn.

Like previous prime ministers, Mr Major takes his role as adviser to the monarch very seriously. Up to the mid-19th century, the prime minister was part of the factional battles involving the court, and often also the heir to the throne.

The priority of prime ministers since then has been to defend the institution of the monarchy and to prevent it becoming a matter of party controversy.

The closest parallels to yesterday's announcement are King George IV's attempted divorce from Queen Caroline in 1820 and King Edward VIII's abdication crisis in 1936.

The public trial of Queen Caroline produced friction between Lord Liverpool, the prime minister, and the monarch. Liverpool was always against raising the divorce in parliament. When the major-

ity on the divorce bill fell to nine on the third reading in the Lords, Liverpool realised that it would be rejected in the Commons and the government would have to resign. So the bill was withdrawn, much to the King's annoyance. The Queen was later refused admission to the much-delayed coronation, and died soon afterwards.

In 1936, Baldwin saw it as his duty to protect the monarchy in the face of the waywardness of Edward VIII. He consulted the prime ministers of the dominions, who this time appear to have been merely informed, and opposition leaders in Britain, as Mr Major has done now. During lengthy consultations, Bal-

dwin manoeuvred to ensure that in the end all parties accepted that the abdication was unavoidable, despite the threatened formation of a "King's party" by Winston Churchill and similar mavericks.

Mr Major said yesterday that the Prince and Princess of Wales's decision to separate had no constitutional implications. But for all the solidarity expressed by party leaders, few believe that line can be held. There was a gasp of disbelief from MPs when Mr Major said there was no reason why the Princess of Wales should not be crowned queen in due course.

Dennis Skinner was the only MP to break yesterday's consensus of silence and argue that the announcement was

bound to mean constitutional changes. Downing Street officials later dismissed as hypothetical all questions about what might happen if there is later a divorce or if one or other became involved with someone else.

However, these questions are far from hypothetical. Yesterday's statement assumes that the amicable separation will continue indefinitely. But the position of the monarchy and the prince's future role as head of the Church of England would be thrown into question by further changes.

Moreover, MPs are apprehensive about the cumulative impact of the breakdown of the marriages of three of the Queen's children on the standing of the monarchy, especially when the Prince of Wales succeeds the present Queen.

In a press article published last weekend, Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, sought to rally support by emphasising the backing of the "quiet people" of Britain for the Queen.

Senior ministers are worried that the intensive press coverage contributed to the separation and will affect the future position of the prince, the princess and their children.

Mr Major's appeal to the media to respect their privacy was cheered by MPs. But that will not be the end of the matter.

Yesterday's exchanges in the Commons were an expression more of hope than expectation. The constitutional position of the monarchy has been severely shaken.



'Affection for the monarchy and royal family is deep and enduring. We live in a monarchy; I hope and believe we always will' John Major



'It must be one of the saddest announcements made by any prime minister in modern times' Sir Edward Heath



'It is time we stopped swearing allegiance to the Queen and her heirs because we don't know from time to time who they are' Dennis Skinner, Labour MP

Early marriage quickly in

The Royal Family's decision to separate has caused a stir in the world of royal marriages. The Queen and the Prince of Wales have been married for 40 years, but the news of their separation has shocked many. The Prince of Wales is 57 and the Queen is 72. They have four children, including the Prince of Wales and the Princess of Wales. The news of their separation has caused a stir in the world of royal marriages. The Queen and the Prince of Wales have been married for 40 years, but the news of their separation has shocked many. The Prince of Wales is 57 and the Queen is 72. They have four children, including the Prince of Wales and the Princess of Wales. The news of their separation has caused a stir in the world of royal marriages.

Dynasty e

The Royal Family's decision to separate has caused a stir in the world of royal marriages. The Queen and the Prince of Wales have been married for 40 years, but the news of their separation has shocked many. The Prince of Wales is 57 and the Queen is 72. They have four children, including the Prince of Wales and the Princess of Wales. The news of their separation has caused a stir in the world of royal marriages. The Queen and the Prince of Wales have been married for 40 years, but the news of their separation has shocked many. The Prince of Wales is 57 and the Queen is 72. They have four children, including the Prince of Wales and the Princess of Wales. The news of their separation has caused a stir in the world of royal marriages.

World had long suspected: the marriage is all but over



Height of expectation: the Prince of Wales and Lady Diana Spencer after their engagement



Just married: the couple leaving St Paul's Cathedral after their wedding to acknowledge the cheers of crowds lining the route

Priority given to princes' happiness

By KATE ALDERSON

PRINCE William and Prince Harry, who continued their studies at school in Berkshire yesterday, were told well in advance of the official announcement that their parents were separating, Buckingham Palace said.

The princes will remain at Ludgrove, near Wokingham, until the term ends this weekend and will share the Christmas holiday between their parents, although it is not yet known whether they will join the rest of the royal family at Sandringham. "They will be with both parents in turn but the exact details are not finalised yet," a palace spokeswoman said.

The announcement of the separation emphasised concern for Harry and William. It said that the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh "particularly hope that the intru-

sions into the privacy of the prince and princess may now cease". The statement continued: "They believe that a degree of privacy and understanding is essential if their royal highnesses are to provide a happy and secure upbringing for their children."

Uppermost in the minds of both

parents is the stability of their sons' lives. William, 10, and Harry, 8, will have to learn quickly about dividing their time between their mother's residence, Kensington Palace, and their father at Highgrove.

The Princess of Wales will be especially concerned about the effect of the separation on her sons as she comes from a broken home.

Her parents separated when she was six and there followed a protracted legal battle for custody of her and her brother and sisters.

The princess has been closely involved in the day-to-day upbringing of her sons, driving them to nursery and later to school. She cheered them at sports day, publicly wiped away their tears and encouraged them to enjoy normal childhood activities.

The prince has been the target of allegations that he is a stuffy and awkward father, remote from his sons, but during the summer he was photographed hugging them and complained that little notice was taken when he took his sons to Windsor Safari Park and on shooting expeditions.

Prince William Arthur Philip Louis was born at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, London, on June 21, 1982, with Prince Charles

by his wife's side. The nation celebrated the birth of the second in line to the throne and the picture portrayed by the Wales's was of an ideal family. Prince Henry Charles Albert David, known as Harry, was born in the same hospital on September 15, 1984.

The difference in the personalities of the two boys was marked at an early age. Harry was described by his mother as "sensitive to atmospheres" and a "quiet observer", and by his father as "the gentle one with a quiet nature".

William developed a boisterous nature in his early years and at kindergarten it was claimed that he earned the name "Basher" and told other children he would "send my knights to kill you when I'm king". He also regularly stuck out his tongue at photographers but has become quieter and more considerate as he has grown.

Early marital frictions developed quickly into unconcealed antipathy

By LIN JENKINS

THE wedding-day kiss on Buckingham Palace balcony in response to the demanding cheers of the crowd set the expected tone of a marriage that everyone wanted to succeed.

The ingredients of a young beautiful bride, a self-assured heir to the throne, popularity, great wealth and a defined public role were a heady mix that could hardly fail. But fail it did, and the painful separation of a couple who now cannot hide their antipathy towards each other marks an end to a private struggle so often played out under the public spotlight.

The wedding at St Paul's Cathedral saw the fruition of the hoped-for schemes of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and her lady-in-waiting, Ruth, Lady Fernoy, grandmother of the shy and unworried Lady Diana Spencer. From the beginning, there were underlying frictions common to many embryonic love affairs.

While many of the difficulties have been unfairly amplified by friends of the couple, and reamplified by the media, it is clear that the courtship was swift. The Prince of Wales

was under pressure to secure the line, and in Lady Diana he believed he had found someone he could teach and mould. He had been ill-prepared to cope with a rival for public affection with a strong sense of her own worth.

Five days before the wedding, Lady Diana cried at a polo match. The press blamed nerves and the intense media focus. Later interpretation said that she was upset at his continuing affection for a past girl friend. The honeymoon was barely better, with the relaxed atmosphere of the royal yacht replaced quickly by Balmoral and a country life that the princess could never fully embrace.

The early years, and the arrival of a son in June 1982, gave the appearance that all was well. According to friends, the cracks began to appear were papered over in public. The birth of Prince Harry in September 1984 signalled a marked change. The princess imposed her will on the household, ostracised the prince's friends and servants whom she disliked, and gave vent to her hatred of certain aspects of her life.

The prince responded by

returning to his bachelor lifestyle. Friends said that he was increasingly lonely and eccentric, voiced concern that he had no clear role while his mother reigned, and hinted that the blame lay in his wife's often open criticism.

By 1987 the pattern was established. The prince spent a month away from his wife and children at Balmoral, but the domestic arrangements were no worse than those common to many couples in their circle. Recent reports, based on information from the princess's friends, suggest

that a confrontation in the autumn of the following year with Camilla Parker-Bowles, a former girl friend of the prince, highlighted her determination not to allow the rift to become any greater.

Each cultivated a separate group of friends, followed their own interests and maintained a public profile of professional togetherness rather than displays of affection. It was an arrangement that weathered the speculation

generated by the princess's evening with her friend James Gilbey and rumours of a friendship with Major James Hewitt of the Life Guards.

The prince, too, had his friends. When he broke his arm playing polo at Cirencester, friends claim that the princess returned to Highgrove to find him with Mrs Parker-Bowles. Her disapproval and jealousy failed to end the friendship.

The visit to Czechoslovakia in May 1991, when the couple were reported to be in separate rooms, marked the beginning of the open season for public debate on the state of the marriage. On their visit to India in February, the princess used her not inconsiderable skill to generate sympathy for her plight in a loveless marriage. She arranged a photocall and was pictured standing alone in front of the Taj Mahal. None missed the irony. Her husband, on a visit years before, had said that he would one day bring his bride to marvel at its beauty.

During the visit, the prince kissed his wife in public for the first time in four years. But instead of a spontaneous show of affection, it looked awkward and landed closer to her ear than her cheek.

Andrew Morton's book *Diana: Her True Story*, published in June, claimed that the princess was trapped in a loveless marriage. Apparently based on talks with her friends, it said that she suffered from bulimia nervosa and had made several suicide attempts. While many of the claims were fanciful, it clearly established that the marriage was far from a fairy-tale.

During the annual Balmoral holiday, the text of an alleged telephone conversation recorded by a retired bank manager between the princess and Mr Gilbey surfaced. He called her "Squidgy" and blew kisses down the telephone.

Any attempt to hide the animosity between the couple during a trip to Korea last month failed miserably. The princess, on her return, took the unprecedented step of issuing a statement denying a rift between her and the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh after reports that the duke had reproached her for damaging the royal family. What it did not say about the state of her marriage spoke volumes.

Dynasty established in war

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

THE House of Windsor took its name from the castle and was founded in 1917, succeeding the House of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha after George V concluded that his Germanic titles were scarcely suitable at a time of war.

The new name was adopted by a proclamation of the king on July 17 that year, the eighth of his reign, which stated: "Our House and family shall be styled and known as the House and family of Windsor." The Saxe-Coburg name lasted for 77 years, having come to the royal family with the marriage in 1840 of Queen Victoria to Prince Albert, whose father was Duke of Saxe-Coburg. She was descended from the Hanoverian line which had come to the throne in 1714.

The Queen, fourth sovereign of the House of Windsor, declared in 1960 that



female descendants who married would use the surname Mountbatten-Windsor, linking her husband's surname with their descendants. The first use of that name was in 1973 at the marriage of the Princess Royal to Captain Mark Phillips.

After relinquishing the family's German titles, George V earned popularity through public work. Constitutional monarchy

reached maturity during his reign.

His successor, Edward VIII, quickly plunged the Windsor dynasty into crisis through his relationship with the divorcee Wallis Simpson. On December 10, 1936, he executed an instrument of Abdication and stated in a radio broadcast the following day that he found it impossible to discharge his duties without "the help and support of the woman I love".

He gave way to his brother, the Duke of York, who was proclaimed George VI on December 11. With Queen Elizabeth, whom he had married in 1923, the king regained the confidence of a nation badly shaken by the abdication crisis. He did so by standing shoulder to shoulder with his people during the second world war, insisting that he remain at Buckingham Palace while the bombs fell.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TREASURES SEND THEIR MESSAGE OF GREEK MACEDONIA

It is true that when ordinary people refer to Greek antiquity, they usually have in mind ancient cities that had played an important role in the growth of civilization from prehistoric up to the classical period. Among them, Athens, Thebes, Corinth, Sparta, Olympia and other city-states of the southern part of Greece, the Aegean islands, Crete, Cyprus, west Asia Minor and even south of Italy, the very well known "Magna Graecia" are among the prevailing ones. On the contrary Macedonia's history comes into existence since the glorious reign of King Philip, his son Alexander the Great, and his generals who ruled over the remains of the late Persian empire, creating the very well known and so important Greek centers of civilization of Alexandria, Pergamos, Antioch of Mesopotamia. Nevertheless, Macedonia's previous history remains quite obscure to common people.

However, archaeological excavations during the last twenty years brought to light hundreds of ancient Greek cities, temples, palaces, theaters and tombs, one of which is the famous tomb of King Philip, and treasures of an exquisite workmanship and design. Chronologically, they cover the most important periods of the Greek history from the Mycenaean up to the classical times. Their number increases in such a manner, that in the years to come, they will very probably exceed those of the southern part of the country, which was wrongly considered to constitute the main body of Greek antiquity. Therefore, when talking of ancient Greece, one must have in mind its northern part as well, i.e. Macedonia.

The bronze crater of Derveni

Amongst the most important finds are the bronze crater and several other bronze vases with an attractive golden appearance. They were discovered near Thessaloniki, capital of Macedonia in 1969. They are ascribed to the 4th century B.C., a period during which metal working technique in Greece had reached an amazingly high standard of perfection.

The large crater, a unique masterpiece of ancient Greek art and technology, has a 90 cm height, and an approximate mass of 40 kg. The base, the four statuettes, which lie on the crater's shoulder, and the two heavy handles are cast, while the whole main body with the fine relief decorations is forged.



Its golden colour, which led archaeologists to believe that it was gold plated, is due to an unusual high tin content (15%). It is surprising how ancient Greeks had shaped the hard copper-tin alloy into such a large vase and, what is more, they had decorated its main body with high relief decorations.

On the other hand, X-ray investigation led to the unexpected conclusion that this huge crater was from bottom to the middle of its neck a one piece vase. At this point exists the sole welding zone between the main body and the upper part of the crater. Just above the welding point some small size wild animals seem to walk on an irregular ground. In this way, the artist has actually succeeded in hiding the rather rough welding.

Macro and micro examination and experimental work showed that the crater would have been produced by forging, while the smaller bronze vases either by forging, or on the lathe or, finally by a

combination of both. In fact, some of the small vases show signs of spinning on the lathe.

The above study has largely contributed in assessing the achievements realized by ancient Greeks in Macedonia during the 4th century B.C., and has led to the conclusion that throughout this period Greek art and technology had actually reached a climax of perfection and, what is more, Macedonia the new Greek super power that had succeeded Athens after its decline constituted part of the ancient Greek world and a continuation of its civilization.

Prof. Dr. George J. Varoufakis
Head of the Research and Quality Control Department
of HALYVOURGIKI INC.

HALYVOURGIKI INC.
1000 PLYMOUTH - 1000 PLYMOUTH - 1000 PLYMOUTH - 1000 PLYMOUTH

'There are circumstances where separation is the lesser evil and hence the best way forward'

Archbishops urge compassion and understanding

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

CHURCH leaders last night urged a show of compassion and understanding for the Prince and Princess of Wales.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, and the Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood, said in a joint statement: "In the case of unsuccessful marriages, the Church of England accepts that there are sometimes circumstances, however sad, where separation is the lesser evil and hence the best way forward."

Dr Habgood said that marital status did not affect the succession to the throne and hence to the title of Supreme Governor of the Church of England. Separation did not in itself "in any sense disqualify a person from holding the title of Supreme Governor."

The Bishop of Liverpool, the Right Rev David Sheppard, said: "The church stands firmly for the ideal that marriage is for keeps. However, it has had to face that we are open to the same hurts and failures as other human groupings."

Bishop Sheppard, who is chairman of the church's Board for Social Responsibility, which recently set up a working party to examine family life, said: "One of the

things we need to acknowledge is that the church community is not immune to the human hurts and failures that other people experience."

The church's response to the separation is an indication of how far church attitudes to separation and divorce have changed. According to the Bishop of Oxford, the Right Rev Richard Harries, the church is walking a tightrope between the ideal of lifelong marriage and the need to help

THE CHURCH

those involved in marital breakdown. He said: "The Church of England believes the intention of God is that a marriage is a lifelong union. But we all have to recognise that some marriages are unsuccessful."

Last year remarried men were for the first time allowed to be ordained in the church, with the permission of their archbishop. Many traditionalists still oppose such relaxations of the rules, but this act was yet another sign of how the church is facing the reality of modern, secular society where marital breakdown is increasingly common.

The reaction to the Prince and Princess of Wales's statement indicates a church which is moving from its position of moral righteousness to a more compassionate position of pastoral care and understanding. Few church leaders have not experienced marital problems in their churches or even their own families.

At last night's performance of Handel's *Messiah* in St Paul's Cathedral, where the couple married, the Very Rev Eric Evans, the dean, asked the audience to pray for the couple. As he left for the performance he said: "There is deep, deep sadness... We cannot be judgemental."

Church leaders of other denominations also expressed compassion. Cardinal Basil Hume, Archbishop of Westminster, said: "It is very sad and I share the sympathy of all those who hold the Prince and Princess in high esteem."

Mother Teresa of Calcutta, who is a close friend of the princess, told *The Universe*, the Catholic weekly, that she was distressed. "I am praying for the family and I feel very sorry for them. Love begins at home and the family that prays together stays together," she said.



Country life: a stylised family portrait by Lord Snowdon of the prince and princess with their sons

Separation presents no barrier to throne

By ALAN HAMILTON

THE separation of the heir to the throne and his wife carries no direct constitutional implication. Even if the couple later divorce — although there is no suggestion that they will — there is no barrier in law to the Prince of Wales becoming king.

As long as the couple remain merely separated, they remain married in law. This would enable the Prince of Wales to be crowned King Charles III — or whatever name he chooses — and his wife to be crowned Queen Diana, Queen's consort — as

THE LAW

distinct from queens regnant, such as the present monarch — have no formal constitutional status.

No divorced or formally separated monarch has sat on the throne since Henry VIII, although George IV tried in vain to displace himself of Queen Caroline in favour of Mrs Fitzherbert. Edward VII, while still Prince of Wales, led a largely separate life from his wife Alexandra, although no formal separation was ever announced.

However, the voice of the people must also be heard if the monarchy is to survive, as Edward VIII discovered.

In 1936, Edward, besotted with the twice-divorced Wallis Simpson, told the prime minister, Stanley Baldwin "that marriage had become an indispensable condition of my continued existence, whether as a king or a man. I intend to marry Mrs Simpson as soon as she is free to marry."

Edward's unwavering determination to marry made his abdication inevitable. He did not require the consent of his ministers to marry, but as Mr Baldwin made abundantly clear to him, the position of the king's wife was different to that of any other wife, in that she became queen. Mr Baldwin was convinced that the British people would not tolerate a twice-divorced woman as wife of the supreme governor of the Church of England — a church which did not, and still officially does not, give its sanction to the remarriage of a person whose former spouse is still living.

Edward then proposed a morganatic marriage, in which Mrs Simpson would have no claim on royal rights, status or privileges and any children would forfeit their right to inheritance. Baldwin took the view that such an act would need fresh legislation. Having been told that neither the British nor any of the major Commonwealth governments would support such a proposal, Edward withdrew from the throne.

Prince Charles's problems therefore lie primarily with the Church of England, whose views on having a supreme governor separated from his wife will count for much. Yesterday the church went out of its way to be supportive and to underline the fact that, in its view, no such problems arise for the time being.

The prince also faces problems with the public perception of his position. No monarch in modern times would contemplate ascending the throne unless he was sure of his subjects' support. And it remains to be seen whether his subjects will tolerate a future king whose consort leads an entirely separate life.

Church role is not affected

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE separation does not affect the Prince of Wales's position as Supreme Governor of the Church of England nor his succession to the throne.

This is the case whatever his marital status and remains so even if the separation becomes a divorce, which many see as likely, even though the couple have no plans to divorce at present.

The Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood, said the monarch holds the position of Supreme Governor by virtue of being sovereign. "There is no other legal requirement."

Under the Act of Settlement 1700, the sovereign must be a communicant member of the Church of England; having an unsuccessful marriage is no disqualification to being head of the church.

The couple have agreed to a legal separation, but not one which requires court approval. The separation is distinct from a judicial separation which would need to be endorsed by the courts in the same way as a divorce.

With most couples, a legal separation is usually a prelude to divorce, which with consent can occur after two years of living apart. There is usually a document involved, in which the couple set out what they agree as far as children and financial arrangements are concerned.

Such a separation agreement would involve a contractual document. In the case of the Prince and Princess of Wales, there is unlikely to be a specific separation document, although it is understood that lawyers have been involved and papers have been exchanged.

Sir Matthew Farrer, the

Queen's solicitor, has advised the prince, with back-up from his team of matrimonial lawyers.

Peter George, a matrimonial lawyer, said: "The difference between a legal separation and a divorce is very significant. With the latter, the couple are no longer husband and wife; the law has pronounced the dissolution of the marriage."

There were a hundred and one advantages in going for a formal separation rather than divorce, he said. The couple could obtain a divorce immediately only if they were prepared to indulge in

CONSTITUTION

accusations of unreasonable behaviour or adultery, with all the "media furore" that would entail. Alternatively, they could seek divorce after a separation of two years, as the Princess Royal did.

He added that in his view arrangements in this case would be made and would be honoured without the need for any contract. The needs of the children, and the requirement to ensure that they suffered as little as possible, would be the overriding consideration in any arrangements, he said.

Lawyers will have sorted out financial arrangements with the minimum of acrimony. The prince is certain to have full access to his children, who are likely to reside with their mother.

Gill Dornan, a matrimonial lawyer, said that agreements when couples decided formally to separate "can be as wide-ranging and as tailor-made as the circumstances in which couples find themselves."

Few wedding details released

By LIN JENKINS

THE marriage of the Princess Royal to Commander Timothy Laurence in Scotland on Saturday has been eclipsed by news of her brother's separation.

The couple had hoped to keep their ceremony a private, indeed secret, affair until word leaked out, and welcome attention being diverted from their wedding. Only scant details have been released, a reflection of their wish for a quiet service.

Both the public and press have been told the weather forecast is for snow and that there will be no means of getting a good look at the couple or guests. Grampian police said driving conditions would be bad on the narrow roads. However, yesterday's confirmation that Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother will attend the service at Craigmiles church on the Balmoral estate will ensure the presence of both well-wishers and media in considerable numbers.

Buckingham Palace has not added to the short formal statement announcing the wedding. No details have been released about the names of the best man and of any bridesmaids or what the bride will wear.



Princess Royal: spotlight diverted to her brother



Laurence: best man's identity still unknown

Aberdeen the following morning and drive to Balmoral. The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, the Queen Mother and Princess Anne's children, Peter, 15, Zara, 11, will be present. No details have been released concerning other family members.

After the 15-minute ceremony, the royal family will host a small reception for guests and estate workers. The couple is expected to spend the weekend in a cottage on the estate.

Fashion unconscious?

Steer well clear of Earls Court, Dec 10-15.

If your idea of high fashion is a pair of stiletto heels, then please wobble off somewhere else. If, however, you're slightly more fashion conscious, then make for Clothes Show Live, which once again is sponsored by Lloyds Bank.

Over 250 fashion companies and designers will be showing their latest lines and collections while experts will be on hand to give professional advice. Over the 6 days, models will change outfits some 9,000 times, to glide down a catwalk the length of a football pitch.

If you'd like an information leaflet, call in at any branch of Lloyds Bank or ring the ticket hotline on: (071) 373 8141. Alternatively, the highlights will be televised in a special edition of the BBC's Clothes Show programme, on Sunday, Dec 13th.

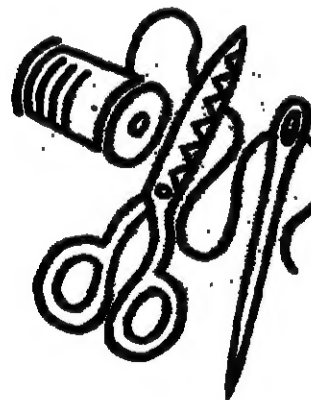
Either way, you'll end up seeing stars.



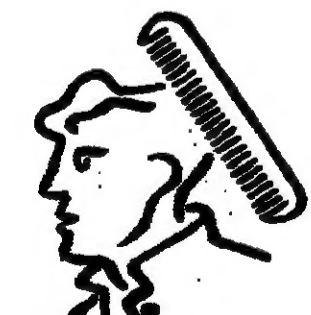
LLOYDS



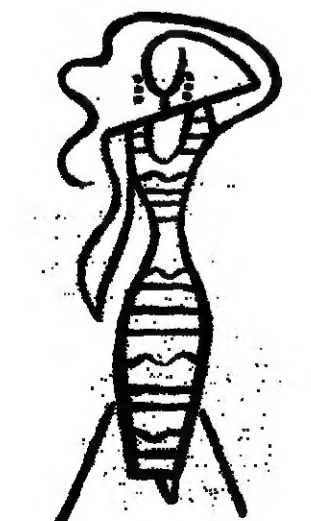
BANK



FASHION



SPONSORSHIP



CLOTHES SHOW LIVE

SPONSORED BY LLOYDS BANK

Papers not to blame for telling sad truth

BY BRIAN MACARTHUR

CURSES on the six popular national tabloids will undoubtedly be muttered around many breakfast tables this morning, but was it the press's fault that the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales turned sour?

As Lord McGregor, chairman of the Press Complaints Commission and an academic expert on divorce, pointed out yesterday, newspapers cannot disrupt the stability of a marriage in which the partners are

not just the royal family but anyone who gets into the goldfish bowl of public life can have their slightest move from the conventional path intruded on and then paraded as if on a gallows before its slandering public.

There was a quick answer from the tabloids. As Richard Stott, a former editor of the *Daily Mirror* and *The People* pointed out, the main thrust of the reporting of the Princess of Wales's unhappiness and her unhappy marriage has been true, whatever the denials from palace spokesmen.

Complaints about the tabloids, therefore, become an argument about whether the papers should tell the truth, as they so conspicuously failed to do in 1936 over the relationship between Edward VIII and Wallis Simpson. Since then Britain has become a less deferential society and the six national tabloids have led the way in questioning the old Establishment values.

That has undoubtedly led to questionable intrusions into privacy, in particular the publication of private conversations between the Prince and Princess of Wales and their friends in *The Sun* and the *Daily Mirror*, obtained by snoopers. Yet it was not the tabloids who invented the Duchess of York or who organised a royal *It's a Knock-out* competition or who made the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales.

loyal to each other. Even palace spokesmen yesterday went out of their way to emphasise that the separation was not the fault of the papers.

That denial, made on behalf of the Queen, will not stop many people from continuing to believe that the relentless scrutiny of "Di and Charles" must have exacerbated the strains within their marriage, a view that was put in *The Times* last week by Michael Shea, the Queen's former press secretary. He described the tabloids as "a cancer in the soft underbelly of the nation", adding that they did a huge disservice to society in the damage they caused to individuals and institutions with their daily mix of "sexual innuendo, hypocrisy and lies".

He asked: "Do we really want to continue down the road to a hideous world where

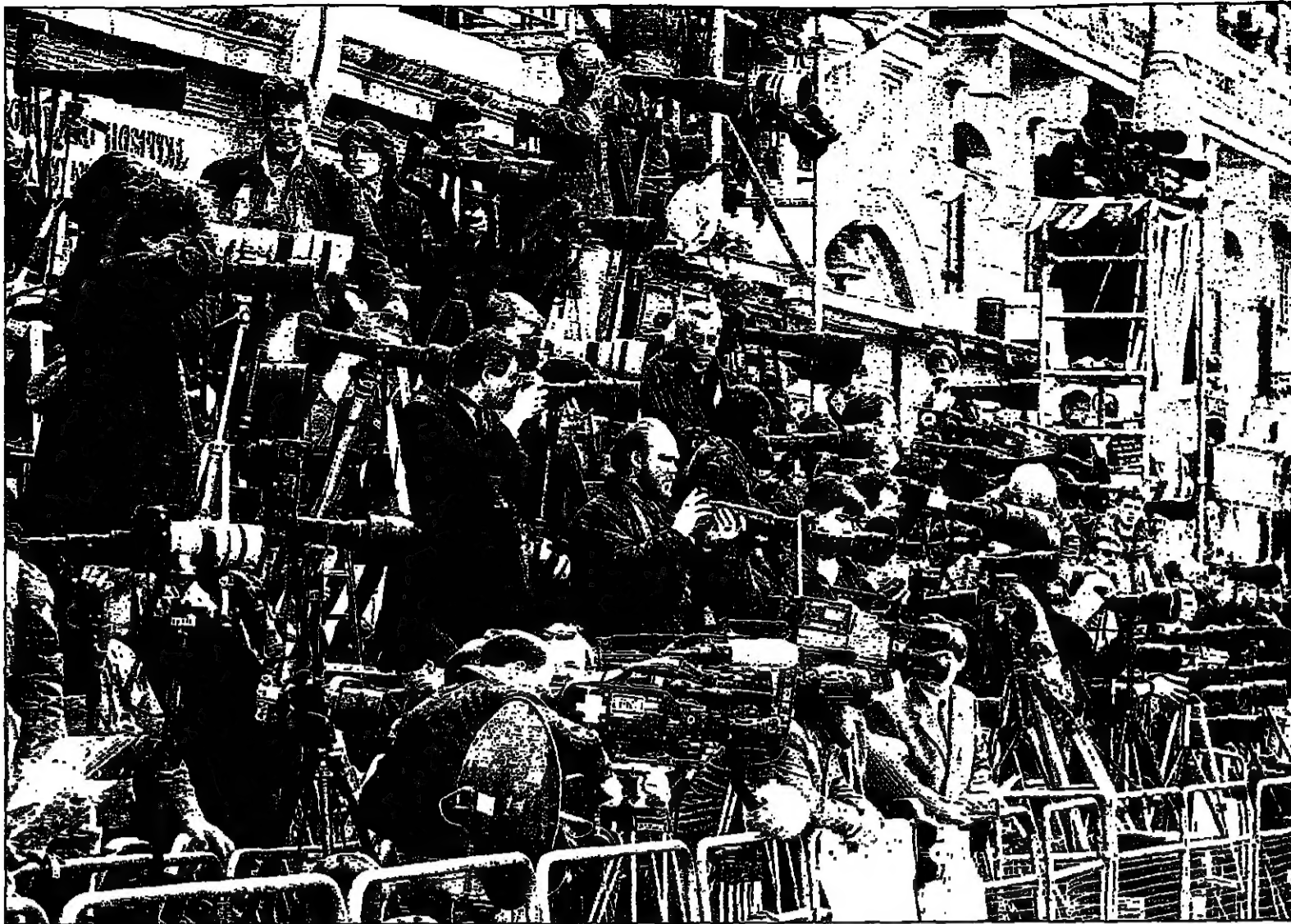
Forlorn hope for privacy

BY TOM CORBY

IN SEVEN years as the Press Association's court correspondent I watched the Wales's marriage until it peaked with last summer's sensational headlines. Both the prince and princess have said that they would prefer their marriage difficulties to remain their own private business, but sadly, it is

an expression of a forlorn hope. Both no doubt realise that the media scrutiny will not lessen in the short term.

During the past year, the sentiment regularly and keenly expressed by their legions of supporters was: "Why can't they be left alone to get on with their job?" Perhaps now they will be allowed to do just that.



Royal watchers: some intrusions into privacy by the media have been questionable, but the main thrust of reports has been true

Pressure grows for curb on media intrusion

BY MELINDA WITTSTOCK
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

CALLS for new privacy legislation to curb press intrusion into private lives are expected to intensify as a result of yesterday's royal separation.

Long-range cameras, parabolic microphones, two-way radios and a clutch of determined tabloid reporters put the royal marriage under unrelenting public scrutiny.

MPs are also increasingly anxious to prevent journalists from using such devices to hound ministers out of office, particularly after a telephone tap exposed David Mellor's affair with Antonia de Sancho and led to the former heritage secretary's resignation in September.

Last week the Commons national heritage select committee expressed its concern at the use of such equipment to obtain news and photographs. Gerald Kaufman, Labour MP and chairman of the committee, asked whether

it was proper for journalists to resort to such techniques when the police needed the authorisation of the home secretary to tap a telephone line.

The wedding of the prince and princess marked a watershed in royal reporting. Fuelled by tabloid circulation

and aided by the public's fascination with every step the couple took, covering the royals turned from a quiet backwater for the most deferential of journalists to a money spinner for the most ambitious.

But it was the publication in June of Andrew Morton's controversial biography of the princess, *Diana: Her True Story*, that heightened the tension of the Queen's "annus horribilis".

Alleging that the Princess's unhappy marriage had led her to attempt suicide made

Mr Morton, a former *Daily Star* reporter, a multi-millionaire. The tabloid reporting inspired by his revelations - from *The Sun's* tapes of the princess's conversations with a male admirer who called her "Squidgy" to the existence of a similar relationship between the prince and Camilla Parker-Bowles - has also weighted the odds in favour of new privacy legislation to curb press intrusion into private lives.

Yesterday the intrusion was continuing for Mrs Parker-Bowles, who left her home in Corsham, Wiltshire, under a police escort after complaining about reporters and photographers trespassing on her land. Police said that her neighbours also complained of being harassed.

David Calcutt, now conducting a second enquiry into privacy and the press, is thought likely to recommend early next year that physical intrusion and electronic

eavesdropping be made a civil offence applying to everyone, not just journalists. Two years ago he recommended that it be made a criminal offence only for journalists.

Last night tabloid editors and royal reporters were too busy preparing today's editions to comment on what role their newspapers had in bringing about the separation, but they have steadfastly denied acting in anything other than the public interest in exposing the royal rift.

Lord McGregor of Durris, chairman of the Press Complaints Commission, said it puzzled him greatly that anyone should seek to blame the tabloids for royal marital woes. "I cannot predict whether this will hasten the arrival of privacy law or not, but I do not believe for one moment that it is within capacity of tabloid or broadsheet newspapers to destroy the stability of good marriages."

"Publicity may be unpleasant and distressing, and indeed I am concerned about the tone of some of the royal reporting, but I don't see how blame can attach to editors for reporting the news."

After the serialisation of the Morton book by *The Sunday Times*, the commission condemned "prurient" royal reporting as "an odious exhibition of journalists dabbling their fingers in the stuff of other people's souls in a manner which adds nothing to legitimate public interest in the situation of the heir to the throne."

Four decades ago the Duke of Edinburgh summed up royal displeasure with the press most succinctly. "God save us from those bloody vultures," he muttered as he strode through a throng of reporters and photographers during a royal tour of the Pacific in 1954. His sentiments have been echoed over the years by his sons and daughter at moments of maximum public exposure.

Damages for duchess over topless pictures

FROM CHARLES BREMMER
IN PARIS

A FRENCH court yesterday ordered a photographer and the publishers of *Paris Match* to pay £84,000 to the Duchess of York and John Bryan, her American financial adviser, for taking poolside photographs of them without their permission last summer.

The duchess and Mr Bryan had sued Daniel Angeli and Cogedipresse, the parent company of *Paris Match*, under the strict French law of privacy after they published photographs of the duchess relaxing topless with Mr Bryan by the swimming pool of a villa at Bormes-les-Mimosas on the Côte d'Azur. The duchess's lawyers employed a private detective to prove that M Angeli took the photographs. The manager of a local hotel gave testimony to the court at Nanterre, near Paris, in October that M Angeli had stayed there at the time of the duchess's visit.

The court ordered the defendants to pay 350,000 francs (£42,000) each to the duchess and Mr Bryan. The photographs appeared in hundreds of publications around the world, precipitating the duchess's fall from grace.

The damages were a small fraction of the £1.32 million that the duchess and Mr Bryan had each sought from the court. The judges said that they were limiting the award to injury suffered by the two from the breach of the "intimacy of their private life" in France only. The two had asked the court to consider the worldwide impact.

The payout equals the previous record for such damages in France, where awards are usually low. The duchess's damages, after legal fees, are to go to charity.

The court severely criticised M Angeli and *Paris Match*, whose circulation soared from 800,000 to 1.25 million with the sensational spread of pictures. The court said that the magazine had "blatantly intended to damage" the duchess's reputation for purely commercial ends. M Angeli denied taking the pictures.

The court was told at an earlier hearing that the duchess's life had been "shattered" and her reputation left in tatters by the publication.

THIS YEAR WE'VE HELPED **636025** PEOPLE CHOOSE A BETTER SAVINGS ACCOUNT.

SECURE YOUR SAVINGS

7.75% FIXED

UNTIL 1995* WITH N&P'S FIXED RATE RESERVE II

At N&P we're committed to helping you make the most of your money. An N&P "Fixed Rate Reserve II" savings account guarantees you 7.75% gross pa until 31 March 1995 - on any sum in excess of £5,000 - a reassuring proposition in times of falling savings rates. What's more you have the option to have your interest paid monthly at a rate of 7% gross pa. To make the most of your money simply complete the coupon and send it to us with your cheque, or call our helpline now, free, between 8am and 8pm, 7 days a week on

0800 50 60 70

PLEASE SEND TO: DEPARTMENT FR, NATIONAL & PROVINCIAL BUILDING SOCIETY, FREEPOST, BRADFORD BD1 1BR.

I/We enclose a cheque for £ (minimum £5,000) made payable to National & Provincial Building Society, to be credited to a Fixed Rate Reserve II account.

1. Title _____ Full Forenames _____ Surname _____

2. Title _____ Full Forenames _____ Surname _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ (work) _____

Telephone number (home) _____ (work) _____ Account No. _____ Sort Code _____

I/We would like interest paid: annually ☐ monthly ☐ Best ☐

I/We agree to be bound by the Society's rules and terms of issue of the Fixed Rate Reserve II account, copies of which are available on request.

Signature _____ Date _____

A full application form will be despatched for completion on receipt of your cheque, and withdrawal from the account will only be possible after this has been received, the account conditions issued and funds cleared.

Minimum investment £5,000. *Fixed rate to 31 March 1995, no additions allowed. Withdrawals of at least £500, or closure of account, permitted subject to the loss of an equivalent of 90 days' interest. Interest paid monthly, or annually on 31 March. Interest payable on the basis of the rate of interest in force at the time of withdrawal. Full withdrawal details available on request from National & Provincial Building Society, Freepost, Bradford BD1 1BR.

National & Provincial Building Society

710-12-82A

GIVE THE GIFT OF MUSIC



Listening to music is fine, but imagine the joy you could have making it.

So what better gift for family and friends this Christmas, than a musical instrument from Yamaha?

Yamaha keyboards are priced from under £40 while pianos start at just £399.

Or choose a Yamaha Clavinova digital piano. You'll be in a good company.

Clavinovas are, after all, used by the Royal Academy and Royal College of Music.

While our range of brass and woodwind with over 5 million instruments sold, finds expert and student and professional alike.

And what knows where that first musical step could lead?

Your nearest Yamaha Dealer can help you find out.

YAMAHA

Cabinet tells Major to lift threat from most pits on closure list

By Philip Webster and Jill Sherman

JOHN Major is to be told by senior cabinet colleagues that most of the pit closures announced in October will have to be shelved at the end of Michael Heseltine's review early next year.

Influential ministers have concluded that neither the Conservative party in the country nor Tory MPs will stomach closures on anything like the scale proposed seven weeks ago before the board of trade president was forced to retreat in the face of the biggest backbench outcry in 13 years of Tory government.

The issue has aroused more concern throughout the Conservative party than any other in recent years, according to informed sources. Some 2,000 letters a day were being received at Conservative central office at the height of a crisis that was calmed only by Mr Heseltine's announcement of a review, pending an enquiry, for 21 of the 31 pits scheduled for closure.

The Times disclosed this week that the Commons trade and industry committee, which has been conducting a parallel investigation, will recommend in January that a "significant" number of the pits stay open.

Yesterday it emerged that both the government review and the committee enquiry are examining proposals that would result in at least 14 of

the 21 pits being reprieved as a result of moves to increase the market for coal by 15 million tonnes.

Sources close to Mr Heseltine are convinced that he wants the government package to be broadly in line with that put forward by the Conservative-dominated committee so as to get the revamped plan through the Commons. They say that most of the evidence to the government's review has been passed to the committee and that most Labour MPs on it accept that some of the pits will have to be closed.

Tory committee members are pressing for privatisation of some of the ten pits outside the government review. Some also argue that about four of the pits should be mothballed. Mr Heseltine will try to avoid accusations of a climb-down by insisting that the debate has now changed to whether the coal market can be increased. The initial decisions by British Coal were correct when made, given that there was no prospect of more coal contracts, he will argue.

Mr Heseltine disclosed on Tuesday, in a letter to the committee chairman, Richard Cabborn, that a wide series of measures are being considered by the review team to extend the coal market. These include support for the industry through subsidies or a levy

on electricity consumers and legislation to encourage generators to burn more coal.

Mr Heseltine, whose reputation for political surefootedness took a battering after the original announcement, is believed by colleagues to be determined not to make the same mistake again.

Ministers sympathetic to Mr Heseltine blame the Treasury for forcing the pit closure programme forward and requiring him to announce the closures in one instalment. They argue that if the government had persisted with a step-by-step approach, most of the furor would have been avoided. Nevertheless, ministers involved in the decision admit that it was "boded" and that they failed to foresee the strength of antipathy to it.

Tory MPs on the committee believe that many of the 21 pits can reduce their costs by changing working practices.

Parliament, page 9



Coal face: a miner at the Markham Main and Bentley pits in Nottinghamshire, in an industry facing a reprieve

Recession led banker to suicide

A BANKER, Ian Miller, who worked in John Major's constituency, killed himself because he could not cope with the pressure of dealing with the problems of small businessmen.

An inquest heard that Mr Miller, 34, of Earith, Cambridgeshire, had worked at Barclays Bank since the age of 16 and had risen to the post of corporate manager at a branch in Huntingdon.

But the strain of being in charge of small business accounts became too much for the father of three. He walked out of his home "for a breath of fresh air" and drove to a beauty spot, where he drank most of a bottle of whisky and asphyxiated himself with fumes from the car's exhaust.

His manager, Jean Temple, told the inquest in Huntingdon: "It's a tough job at the moment. There is a bit of an anti-bank campaign going on and it worried Ian. Like all bank managers the workload was heavy."

The coroner, David Morris, recording a verdict of suicide, said there was a tendency to blame banks for difficulties without realising the effect it could have on bank staff.

Tourist raped on beach

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

A BRITISH tourist has been raped on a beach south of Durban in South Africa. The woman, aged 44, was sitting to read a book on some rocks at 8.30am on Tuesday when she was dragged into bushes by two young men armed with a knife and a screwdriver. They forced her to strip and then took turns to rape her.

The woman was on holiday with her boy friend at a caravan park at Illovo Beach, 15 miles south of Durban. The area is close to the troubled black township of Umhlababazi, in a district that was officially declared an area of unrest last month.

The woman told police that she had taken a stroll on the beach and had sat on the rocks to read when she was attacked. She was taken to the nearby Kingsway hospital and treated for shock.

A week ago two British women were murdered in Natal, further north. Julie Godwin and Elizabeth Over, both 30, were also attacked on a beach. They died of stab wounds.

In September, another tourist, Andre de Kock, from Pretoria, was killed when he disturbed thieves in his tent in Sodwana, a Natal Parks Board resort. His mother, Shelagh Nation, has written to a Pietermaritzburg newspaper urging people to stop going to such areas until law and order has been established there.

Major Coert Marais, of the South African police, advised tourists last night not to stroll alone along secluded beaches.

Council 'tried to gag press'

By Richard Ford

A LABOUR local authority took legal action against the media and Conservative opponents in an attempt to gag criticism of its activities, it was alleged yesterday.

Derbyshire County Council had gone to extraordinary lengths in using libel laws to counter attack by MPs and Times Newspapers, Anthony Lester QC, for Times Newspapers, told law lords. "What is extraordinary is the use of the libel laws by this political body. It is not a body which has been respectful of the need for full freedom of political expression."

The council had also brought libel proceedings against Edwina Currie, the former health minister, and Phillip Oppenheim, a Conservative MP, and had threatened to bring proceedings against a local newspaper and an opposition councillor.

Mr Lester told an appellate committee of the House of Lords that local newspapers, with their limited financial resources, would be particularly vulnerable if councils were allowed to sue for libel.

The council is contesting an appeal court judgment that local authorities and government departments do not have the right to protect their reputations by suing for libel. The hearing arose from two reports in *The Sunday Times* in 1989.

Charles Gray QC, for the council, has said that upholding the judgment would allow newspapers a field day at the expense of those administering local affairs. The hearing continues today.

Husband next door must leave at dusk

By Lin Jenkins

A MILLIONAIRE who bought the house next to his estranged wife in the hope of a reconciliation has been ordered by a court to leave each day at sunset.

Bill Garwood is allowed to visit during daylight hours only to mow the lawn, wash the windows and pick up his mail. Hereford County Court says he must spend the night elsewhere.

Mr Garwood decided to woo back his wife Anne when she left him after 31 years of marriage. It took two years and £50,000 spent on private detectives before he traced her to Leominster in Hereford and Worcester.

Knowing that it could take some time before her feelings softened, he arranged to buy the house next door. But when his wife discovered he was moving in last June she was furious.

"I thought if I got next door we might go out for a meal, get talking and perhaps get back

together," Mr Garwood said from his other home in Guernsey yesterday.

A court hearing due in February will give him the chance to contest the restraining order, which prevents him pestering his wife and stipulates that he must leave the £68,000 house at dusk. Mrs Garwood refused to comment.

The couple married on Valentine's day 1959 and built up a thriving shop-fitting business in north London. In 1987 Mr Garwood sold the company and became a millionaire. Retirement brought the £500,000 home in Guernsey and luxury holidays. But in the late 1980s the couple fell out over their son Martin's choice of girl friend. Mrs Garwood finally left the island and asked friends not to tell her husband where she was.

She has filed for divorce on grounds of violence and mental cruelty. He has petitioned on the grounds of mental cruelty and desertion.

INTEREST FREE CREDIT ON ALL PRODUCTS OVER £250. 7 DAYS ONLY.

GIFTS UNDER £500 AT COMET

SONY C107 (Illustrated right) CD Mini System/ Twin cassette/ 2 x 20 watts (DIN)/ Dolby B/ Surround sound control 6 Months Interest Free Credit* **£329.99**

FERGUSON FV61 (Illustrated below) Video Recorder/ Twin speed/ Built-in VideoPlus™ was £329.99 6 Months Interest Free Credit* **£299.99** **SAVE £30**

PANASONIC NVG101 (Illustrated left) VHS-C Camcorder/8 x power zoom/ Wide angle lens/High speed shutter/ 3 lux minimum illumination was £549.99, previously £599.99 6 Months Interest Free Credit* Plus £50 Cheque Back Offer when you purchase this product. To be used against additional Panasonic or Technics purchases in Comet before 31st March 1993* **£499.99** **SAVE £100**

COMMODORE Amiga A600 "The Wild, The Weird & The Wicked" Home Computer/ 1Mb memory/3 1/2" disk drive/2 button mouse/ With 'Deluxe Paint III', 'Grand Prix', 'Putty' and 'Push-Over' software 6 Months Interest Free Credit* **£349.99**

GIFTS UNDER £250 AT COMET

SANYO 3024 (Illustrated right) 34cm (14") Remote Control Colour Television/ On-screen display was £199.99, previously £199.99 **£169.99** **SAVE £30**

GOODMANS TX3650 Video Recorder/Twin speed/ 8 event, 1 month timer was £179.99 **£169.99** **SAVE £10**

SHARP R7E53W Combination Microwave/ 1.0 cu.ft. capacity/850 watts (IEC)/ Touch controls 6 Months Interest Free Credit* Price includes £30 Cheque Back (Till Price £279.99) **£249.99**

PANASONIC NVJ40 (Illustrated right) Video Recorder/3 head was £279.99, previously £299.99 Plus £25 Cheque Back Offer when you purchase this product. To be used against additional Panasonic or Technics purchases in Comet before 31st March 1993* **£249.99** **SAVE £50**

NINTENDO SUPER NES (Illustrated right) 16 bit games console/ Control pad/ With 'Street Fighter II' game **£159.99**

THE COMET PRICE PROMISE.

If you buy a product from Comet then find the same offer elsewhere locally at a lower price within fourteen days, we'll refund you 10% of the difference, plus 10% of that refund.

OPENING HOURS.

Monday-Friday 9am-8pm, Saturday 9am-6pm, Sunday 10am-5pm in England, Scotland and Wales. Some shops may close at 6pm. Ring 031-200 0200 for your nearest store.

CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN 15 DAYS LEFT

All items subject to availability. All prices shown include VAT (except where indicated). Where a saving is stated, it is based on the previous price available at Comet for a period of 28 consecutive days in the previous 6 months. *Interest Free Credit. 20% deposit then 6 equal monthly payments, 0% APR. For example: Cash price = £150. Deposit 20% = £30. Amount of payments = 6 months at £20. Ask for a written credit question at your local store. Prices correct at time of going to Press. However, Comet reserve the right to alter or amend prices or offers without notice.

THE TIMES THURSDAY DECEMBER 10 1992
Sikh to
Muslim
nazis

GIFTS UNDER £150 AT COMET

GOODMANS £139.99

GIFTS UNDER £80 AT COMET

GIFTS UNDER £30 AT COMET

SONY £14.99

Sikh temple comes under attack as Asian communities try to ease tension

Muslim leaders blame nazis for violence

By NICHOLAS WAIT

A MOSQUE and a Sikh temple came under attack for the first time as violence in Britain's Asian community escalated yesterday following destruction of the Ayodhya mosque in India on Sunday.

Hindus and Muslims gave a warning that animosity in India was spreading to Britain. Leaders of the country's two million Muslims held an emergency meeting to appeal for calm. Pir Abdul Wahab Siddiqui, president of the International Muslims' Organisation, said Muslims were not responsible for attacks on Hindu temples in Britain and claimed right-wing groups may have been involved.

"We have had letters from nazi groups about the incidents and they are trying to create violence and take advantage of the situation," he said. "Even Muslim hot-heads are restraining themselves. We have had no signs they are involved and we respect each other's places of worship."

Dr Kalim Siddiqui, leader

of the self-styled Muslim Parliament, told the meeting in London, which brought together imams from mosques around Britain, that Muslims had never been responsible for such violence. "Even with emotions running high during the Salman Rushdie affair, we hardly ever broke a window," he said. "We must keep our record of being peaceful and law-abiding citizens of this country."

As Islamic scholars and religious leaders appealed for calm, police were questioning a man about an arson attack on a mosque in east London. Minor damage was caused after petrol was poured through a broken window.

Three Hindu temples in West Yorkshire, an Indian Workers' Association building and a chemist shop run by a leading member of Vishwa Hindu Parishad, the world council of Hindus, were damaged by suspicious fires.

Hindus and Muslims in Southall, west London, said

yesterday that the violence and indiscriminate killing in India had soured their relations in Britain. Zulfikhar Malik, a Muslim shopkeeper, said that before destruction of the Ayodhya mosque, people in Southall did not take any notice of others' religion. "But now people hold grudges on the basis of their religious beliefs. This is more widespread among older people who came from India and Pakistan."

Although the violence in India is mainly between Hindus and Muslims, arsonists attacked a Sikh temple in Luton, Bedfordshire, yesterday, causing £50,000 of damage. Sodhi Ram, president of the Ravindra community in Luton, said: "What troubles there are in India should not be brought to this country. We should live in peace and not disturb other religions because of what is happening in a faraway country."

Parliament adjourns, page 13



Time for talking: Asians in Southall, Britain's biggest Hindu community

IRA victim loses legs after 'punishment'

The victim of an IRA punishment shooting was on a life support machine in Londonderry yesterday after both his legs were amputated. The RUC said the 36-year-old Roman Catholic was in a critical condition after being shot in both legs by several masked men who burst into his house in Shantallow on Tuesday night. The IRA issued a statement after the attack saying that it had carried out the shooting. There have been more than 100 so-called punishment shootings carried out by Loyalist and republican groups in Northern Ireland this year.

The IRA detonated three bombs in the centre of Belfast yesterday, causing damage but no injuries. The first exploded just before 10.30am in a hijacked car parked in a multi-storey car park over the Victoria shopping centre. There had been a warning and the area had been cleared. A second device in a car on the floor below exploded half an hour later without warning. About an hour later two masked men, one with a gun, carried a device into an electrical shop and told customers and staff they had ten minutes to leave. It exploded outside 15 minutes later.

Courts racially biased

The home secretary has instructed officials to consider ethnic monitoring throughout the criminal justice system after research for the Commission for Racial Equality showed that courts deal with black defendants more harshly than whites and are more likely to give them a jail sentence. A survey of 3,300 cases heard in West Midlands crown courts during 1989 found that Afro-Caribbean males stood a 17 per cent greater chance of a jail sentence than whites; Asians had an 18 per cent smaller chance.

Fears for children's TV

Shrinking programme budgets and increased competition for high ratings have reduced the range and quality of children's television, the Broadcasting Standards Council said in a report published yesterday. Original drama, preschool and factual programmes were particularly at risk. The report also found that children are tuning into satellite channels in greater numbers than adults.

A colour television licence will cost £83 from April, a rise of £3. Black and white licences go up by £1 to £27.50.

CBI calls for new M25

Traffic congestion costs British industry more than £15 billion a year, the Confederation of British Industry said yesterday, as it called for a new motorway to provide an alternative to the M25. The proposal would create an outer ring around the M25, from Dover to Southampton, then north along an upgraded A54 to Oxford and eastwards via Aylesbury in Buckinghamshire to the east coast ports. Black and Decker estimated that its Slough factory lost £1.25 million a year because of traffic jams.

Paedophile jailed

Lennie Smith, right, was jailed for ten years by the Old Bailey for sexually abusing a boy aged six. Detectives said outside the court that he was part of a paedophile ring. Smith, 38, was found guilty on specimen charges of gross indecency and sexual assault on a neighbour's son eight years ago. He completed a three-year sentence in October for sexual assault on a boy aged 13.



Christmas adverts

The Church of England has launched a Christmas poster and radio advertising campaign in 22 counties across England amid internal conflict over the freeing of restrictions on religious advertising on radio and television. A church working party is investigating how to reconcile Christian ethics with the morals of marketing.

Stabbing sentence

A young mother who stabbed a stranger in the street after asking him the time was sentenced yesterday to eight years' detention by the High Court in Edinburgh. Suzanne Craig's victim, Andrew Hop, lost half the blood in his body and nearly died. Craig, 20, asked Mr Hop: "Have you ever been stabbed in public before... would you enjoy it?"

Young drivers polled

Young people may be more aware of the dangers of drink driving than older generations, according to a survey by the Portman Group, which showed 75 per cent of 18 to 25-year-olds would abstain completely before driving. The figures showed 94 per cent would try to prevent others from driving if they thought they were over the limit.

Bottomley hits at GPs who invest savings

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

FAMILY doctors who have refused to pay back huge windfall savings made in the first year of the fund-holding scheme were rebuked yesterday by Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary.

She accused the GPs, who have made savings of up to £280,000 on their budgets for buying drugs and hospital services, of being irresponsible. Many have insisted on keeping the savings to invest in their practices, in some cases increasing the value of premises they own, while health authorities are having to cut back on routine hospital treatment for patients because they are running out of money.

Speaking at the first national conference of GP fund-holders in Birmingham, Mrs Bottomley said some budgets had been set incorrectly. "Regions do not have the right to demand the return of savings and I would be extremely reluctant, frankly, to give them such a right," she said. "But it should equally be clear to us all that the responsible approach for fund-holders is to agree to return any part of their savings which are due to incorrect budget-setting."

GPs are prevented from pocketing the savings directly. They must be invested for the benefit of patients. But they are allowed to set up private companies to hire their own services or those of consultants to provide minor surgery and other specialist treatments, paying themselves the fee.

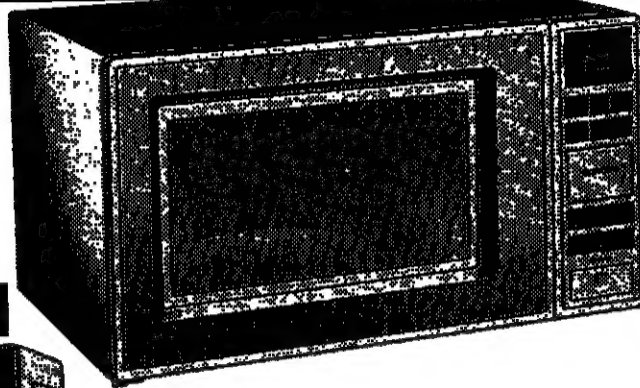
However, a health department official told the conference that this loophole would be closed. "There are real concerns about the accountability and monitoring of private companies, and ministers are looking for alternatives. If you don't have a private company now it is not worthwhile setting one up."

The number of fund-holding practices is expected to double to more than 1,000 next April, and to cover half the population of England by 1995. But Roger Dyson, professor of health care management at the University of Keele, said that most of the growth would come in prosperous areas, leaving a second-class GP service operating in the inner cities.

**GIFTS UNDER
£150
AT
COMET**

**GOODMANS
1401R
(Illustrated right)
Portable Colour Television
34cm (14")
Remote control/
Monitor style
£139.99**

**KENWOOD
KM2001T
(Illustrated right)
Microwave/
0.7 cu.ft. capacity/
Touch control/
700 watts (IEC)
was £129.99
£99.99
SAVE £30**



**SEGA
MEGA DRIVE
(Illustrated right)
16 bit games console/
2 control pads/
With 'Sonic The Hedgehog' game
£129.99**

**SEGA Game Gear
Handheld games console/
Colour LCD screen/Power adaptor/
With 'Sonic The Hedgehog' game
£129.99**

**SHARP QTCD7L
Portable CD HI-FI/4 band tuner
2 Free Compact Discs
£129.99**



**GIFTS UNDER
£80
AT
COMET**

**SONIC
'THE HEDGEHOG 2'
SOFTWARE
NEW
(Illustrated right)
GAME GEAR..... £27.99
MASTER SYSTEM..... £29.99
MEGA DRIVE..... £39.99**

**GOODMANS
FX7000
(Illustrated below)
Midi System/Twin cassette/
Graphic equaliser/3 band tuner
£49.99
Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10**

Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10

Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10

Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10

Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10

Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10

Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10

Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10

Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10

Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10

Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10

Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10

Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10

Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10

Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10

Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10

Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10

Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10

Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10

Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10

Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10

Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10

Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10

Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10

Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10

Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10

Or buy complete with matching CD player
Package Price £109.98 save £10

**GIFTS UNDER
£30
AT
COMET**

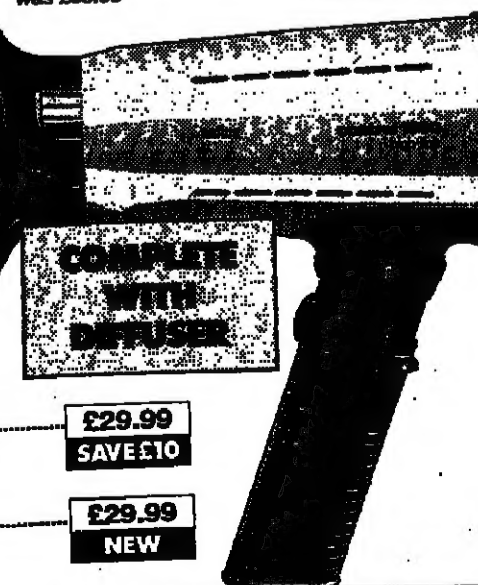
**SONY ICFC242L (Illustrated below)
Clock Radio/3 band tuner/LED display/
Mains operated/Battery back-up
£14.99**



**COMET TAPES
(Illustrated left) 5 pack/
15 hours total recording time
was £8.99
£7.99
SAVE £1**



**BRAUN HL1800
(Illustrated below)
1800 watts/
Diffuser Hairdryer/
Variable heat control/
3 speed settings
was £39.99
£29.99
SAVE £10**



**PROLINE P70
Twin Cassette Radio/With bass boost
was £29.99
£29.99
SAVE £10**

**PHILIPS HD4391
Filterline Cordless Kettle/Removable/
Washable permanent filter
£29.99
NEW**

**PHILIPS HD4391
Filterline Cordless Kettle/Removable/
Washable permanent filter
£29.99
NEW**

**PHILIPS HD4391
Filterline Cordless Kettle/Removable/
Washable permanent filter
£29.99
NEW**

**PHILIPS HD4391
Filterline Cordless Kettle/Removable/
Washable permanent filter
£29.99
NEW**

**PHILIPS HD4391
Filterline Cordless Kettle/Removable/
Washable permanent filter
£29.99
NEW**

**PHILIPS HD4391
Filterline Cordless Kettle/Removable/
Washable permanent filter
£29.99
NEW**

**PHILIPS HD4391
Filterline Cordless Kettle/Removable/
Washable permanent filter
£29.99
NEW**

**PHILIPS HD4391
Filterline Cordless Kettle/Removable/
Washable permanent filter
£29.99
NEW**

**COMET
YOU KNOW WHERE TO COME.**

**INTEREST FREE CREDIT ON ALL
PRODUCTS OVER £250
ENDS WEDNESDAY 16 DECEMBER**



we support
sunday
shopping

we support
sunday
shopping

we support
sunday
shopping

we support
sunday
shopping

THE TIMES THURSDAY DECEMBER 10 1992

£1 bn saving promised in fraud crackdown

By JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

PETER Lilley, the social security secretary yesterday outlined details of a crackdown on benefit fraud which he claimed would raise £1 billion next year.

Mr Lilley's latest target — in a programme which is set to double this year's savings — is housing benefit and council tax fraud.

Mr Lilley said that a further £10 million a year would be spent on more modern methods of fraud prevention and detection, including computer systems to cross-check claims.

Mr Lilley told the all-party social security select committee that more than £500 million would be saved from fraud this year. "We hope there will be additional savings from housing benefit and council tax benefit fraud next year. Future savings are expected to be nearer £1 billion."

Mr Lilley also revealed that £85 million worth of stolen or lost order books were cashed every year — a large proportion of the £130 million worth of those reported missing each year. He claimed that gangs went round stealing order books and then cashing them.

From next April local authorities will be given extra incentives to investigate benefit fraud by keeping some of the savings made. Next year they will be able to retain 20

per cent of the savings and the following year 17.5 per cent. Subsequently this will drop to 15 per cent.

In evidence to the committee Mr Lilley says that the extra measures could save the taxpayer £185 million in the first year, in addition to £45 million kept by local authorities.

At present local authorities are only reimbursed 25 per cent for fraudulent payments giving them a disincentive to chase fraudsters. In future local councils will get the full payments back. "This will further encourage local authorities to carry out more fraud work, by removing any unintended arrangements which deter them from identifying fraud," he said.

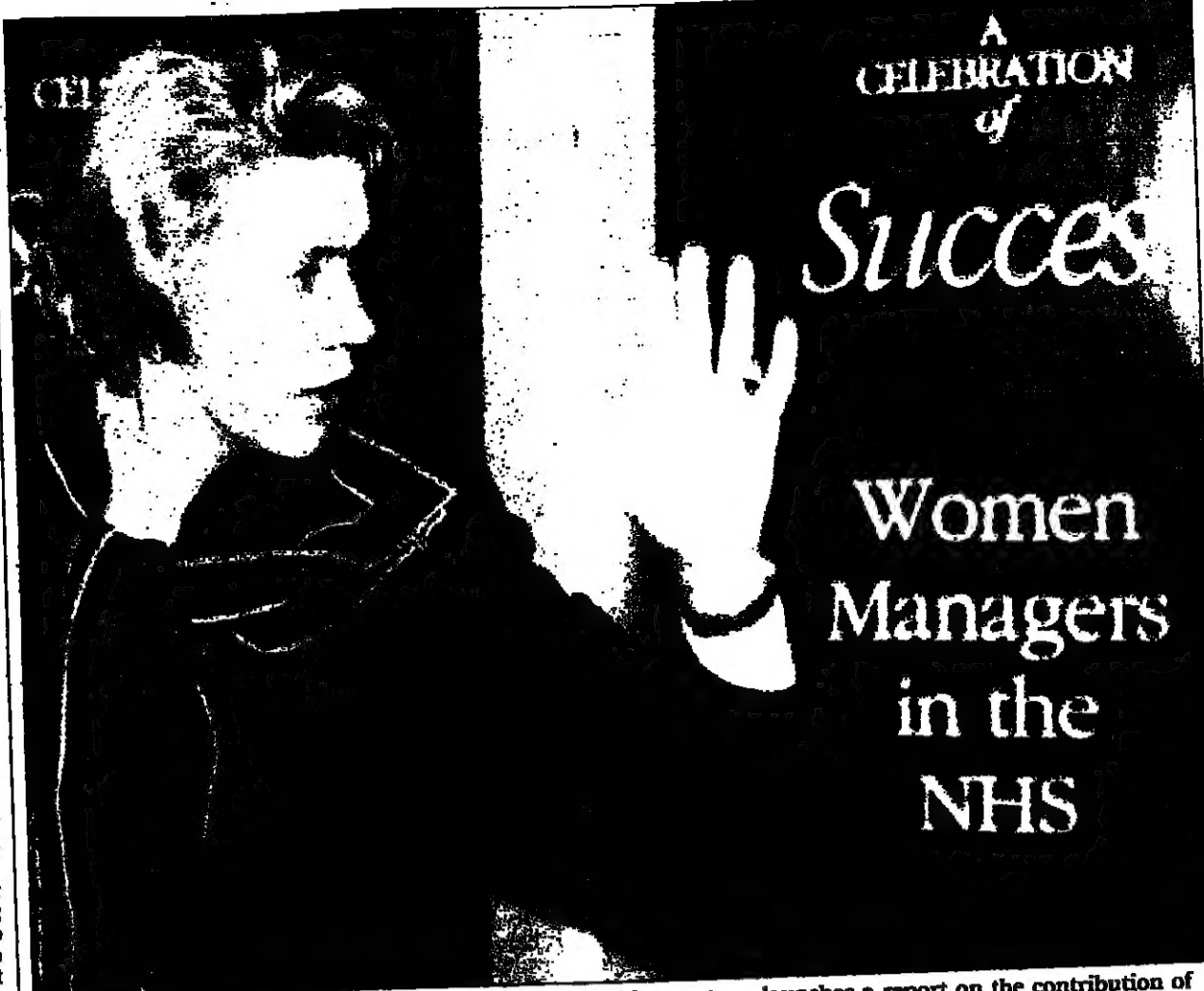
Mr Lilley told the committee that he would not have been able to uprate all benefits in the Autumn Statement unless he had promised to deliver on fraud. "Without this greater effort we would not have been able to uprate the benefits that we did uprate."

Mr Lilley also gave details on how he expected to save £240 million on invalidity benefit in the next three years. Examining doctors will be asked to provide further details of patients' medical conditions in an attempt to sift out any claimants who are not

eligible for the benefit. About 260,000 people are examined by benefit agency doctors every year out of 1.35 million benefit claimants.

Mr Lilley said that claimants would be given more advance warning before having to attend medical examinations, but he gave a warning that if they failed to provide a good reason for not turning up, they risked being disqualified from benefit. At present 50,000 claimants a year fail to turn up for their medical assessments.

The social security secretary was questioned on how he managed to secure a full uprating of benefits and whether this had been traded for future benefit reforms. Mr Lilley denied that he was planning an overall review of welfare benefits. However, he did not rule out reforms in some areas and suggested that there would be more targeting on poorer groups. "We want to make sure that money goes to the people that Parliament identified it to go to and to see whether the legislative framework needs reviewing to channel it better," he said.



Leading from the front Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary, launches a report on the contribution of women in the management of health care. The report, which includes case studies of top women managers, is part of the NHS management executive's contribution to the government's Opportunity 2000 programme

Fears of French invasion

By JONATHAN PRYNN

IF THE Channel tunnel was not enough to enrage confirmed little Englanders, the prospect of French-operated train services reaching deep into the heart of London will surely convince them that the entire project is nothing more than a post-Napoleonic plot.

That possibility was raised at yesterday's session of the Commons transport select committee, at which a succession of articulate foreign railwaymen poured scorn on the rail privatisation plans. Claude Boutte, deputy director of the international affairs department of SNCF, the French state rail operator, said the company had more than enough investment projects in France to consider building the link between the tunnel and London. Asked about the possibility of operating the link, his Gallic shrug of a reply was "why not".

Robert Adley, the Tory chairman, said he was becoming very depressed by the contrast between "the high-speed modern link on the French side and the botched-up Victorian railway on the British side".

Health department denies 'collusion'

By JILL SHERMAN

THE health department yesterday rallied to the defence of Marion Roe, chairman of the Commons health committee, after MPs accused her of colluding with the department by planning to give ministers advance copies of a committee report on NHS trusts.

The health department did not deny that they would get an early copy but said this was "above board" and provided for under House of Commons standing orders.

The allegations made by Labour MPs on the health committee are now being considered by Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker, as possible contempt. Alice Mahon, the Labour MP for Halifax and a member of the committee on health, has submitted a formal complaint to the Speaker — on Miss Boothroyd's instructions — alleging that there was a collusion "at the highest level" between the health committee and the health department.

Yesterday Mrs Roe cited Standing Order 116 of the House of Commons which states that "all select committees have the power to authorise the Clerk of the House to supply copies of their reports to offices of government departments ... not more than 48 hours before the intended time of publication."

The health department

said: "We would agree with the remarks made by Mrs Roe. We don't accept that we have behaved in an improper way. It is provided for in standing orders and is official practice." Ms Mahon said the committee would normally give the report 24 hours in advance to lobby journalists but not to ministers.

Evidence that ministers were expecting to get an early copy came from a health department memo claiming that the department would receive a copy of the committee's report into NHS trusts "a few days before publication". The memo, a copy of which was sent to Ms Mahon anonymously, gave detailed plans of how civil servants and ministers could prepare a quick response if the report was critical. Members of the Tory-dominated committee are said to be divided on the report, which will be published on December 16, and there is likely to be a minority report from Labour MPs.

Ms Mahon has also written to the Commons privileges committee asking it to summon Marion Roe and Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary, to explain why health ministers would get advance warning.

The memo, from Jamie Nevin of the ministry's parliamentary unit, is dated December 2 and has been sent to David Lye, head of the NHS Trust unit. Copies have been circulated to health ministers' special advisers and parliamentary private secretaries. Although it predicts a publication day of early January 1993, the memo says: "We shall get confidential advance copies a few days before." Referring to an attached procedural note, it says: "You will see that lines to take will be needed by ministers and the press office as soon as possible before publication. A draft press release may also be needed if the report is hostile."



Mahon: complained to the Speaker

Ministers criticised over power sell-off

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

AN INFLUENTIAL Tory-dominated committee of MPs implicitly criticised ministers yesterday by complaining that the 12 regional electricity companies were sold too cheaply.

The Commons public accounts committee said that taxpayers should have benefited from the higher than expected profits made by the companies after the £16.1 billion privatisation.

The committee said: "It is clear that the companies' profit forecasts would also have had a material effect on sale prices and that such forecasts were overly cautious and subject to uncertainties."

"We consider that it would not have been unreasonable for the taxpayer to have shared in the higher than expected profits for the first year."

Officials told the committee that prospects of a Gulf war affected their decisions on the timing and sale prices. But the

committee pointed out that very little electricity was generated by oil.

The MPs also complained that there was no competition for 16 out of the 53 advisers appointed by the department to handle the sale.

In addition they were alarmed at number of small investors who have now sold their shares. The total level of shareholdings had fallen from nine million to three million since flotation, showing that the government had failed to widen and deepen share ownership.

Some 52 per cent of shareholders were tempted by the incentives offered in December 1990 at the time of the sale, the report added.

House of Commons committee of public accounts 16th report: The sale of the 12 regional electricity companies (Stationery Office, £10.75).

THE ENGLAND TOUR OF INDIA.

ONLY SKY GUARANTEES YOU AN INDIAN SUMMER THIS WINTER.



LIVE AND EXCLUSIVE COVERAGE ONLY ON SKY SPORTS. FROM JAN. 16TH

SKY MOVIES PLUS. THE MOVIE CHANNEL. SKY MOVIES GOLD. SKY SPORTS. SKY ONE. SKY NEWS. ...And also from the Astra satellite: The Children's Channel, MTV, CNN, UK Gold, Lifestyle, Satellite Jubilee, The Adult Channel, Screenplay, Eurosport, TV Asia.

ALL THE TESTS. ALL THE ONE DAY MATCHES. ONLY ON SKY.

If you want to follow England's fortunes on their eagerly-awaited tour of India, there is only one channel to watch.

Sky Sports.

Sky will be screening live and exclusive coverage of all England's matches with David Gower joining our commentators to give his views.

The first One Day International gets under way on January 16th.

So if you want to see all the action this winter, take guard. And subscribe to Sky today.

SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS.

THE ENGLAND TOUR OF INDIA.

1st Test, Calcutta	Jan. 29th-Feb. 2nd
2nd Test, Madras	Feb. 11th-Feb. 15th
3rd Test, Bombay	Feb. 19th-Feb. 23rd

SIX ONE-DAY INTERNATIONALS.

Ahmedabad	Jan. 16th
Jaipur	Jan. 18th
Chandigarh	Jan. 21st
Bangalore	Feb. 26th
Jamshedpur	March 1st
Gwalior	March 4th

LIVE F.A. PREMIER LEAGUE FOOTBALL.

Liverpool v B'urn Rovers	Dec. 13th
Crystal Palace v Leeds Utd	Dec. 20th
Norwich v Ipswich	Dec. 21st
Aston Villa v Arsenal	Dec. 28th

LIVE F.A. CUP FOOTBALL.

F.A. Cup 3rd Round	Jan. 4th
F.A. Cup 4th Round	Jan. 26th

A GREAT SATELLITE DEAL AT

GRANADA Visionhire

1/2 PRICE INSTALLATION** ON ALL SYSTEMS. PRICES START FROM

£99.99+

48-HOUR INSTALLATION.

For details, talk to your participating local dealer. Or call the number below for your free Sky information brochure.

0506 460 888

Lines open daily 9am to 12 midnight.



BRINGING TELEVISION TO LIFE

See Terms and Conditions on back of Sky TV card. The Sky Channel and Sky Sports are subscription channels of British Sky Broadcasting Ltd. Some satellite receiving dishes are required for certain services. Sky TV is not available in some remote areas. Sky TV is not available in some remote areas.

Thatcher tells Major to be firm on colony

By SHEILA GUNN AND ARTHUR LEATHLEY

BARONESS Thatcher urged John Major yesterday to stand firm against China's threats over the future of Hong Kong when she supported proposals from the governor, Chris Patten, to introduce more democracy into the colony before the 1997 hand-over.

In contrast to her forthright, and unusual, support for the Major government, two former governors criticised Mr Patten's handling of relations with Peking and warned of the long-term dangers for the colony.

Lady Thatcher made it clear that agreement with China was "desirable" to ensure a smooth hand-over in 1997. "But in the last resort... it is Britain which has the responsibility for governing Hong Kong up to 1997," she said in the Lords debate on the future of the colony.

"The best and most helpful stance which we in this House can take is to support the governor, to reiterate our sincere wish to proceed by agreement with China, but make it clear that this cannot be at the expense of what we believe to be right."

She insisted that there was no reason why Mr Patten's proposals should harm relations with China: they were

modest, open to discussion and in line with the joint declaration and the basic law.

Although her relations with Mr Patten were frequently cool when in government, she praised him as a "new, imaginative and competent governor" who had acted with great sensitivity and skill. She also warned Bill Clinton, the American president-elect, not to introduce trade sanctions in protest at human rights abuses in China. "I believe it would be profoundly misguided for an incoming American administration to try to put pressure on China over human rights by restricting trade. That would hit hardest at precisely the wrong people," she said.

In his maiden speech Lord Wilson, the last governor of Hong Kong, made clear his alarm at his successor's stance. He hoped others would put forward alternative proposals for democratic changes in the colony which met with approval in Hong Kong and China. "It cannot be good for Hong Kong or China in the long run to have a long-running dispute of this sort," he said.

The Chinese and British governments were criticised by Baroness Dunn, a senior member of the Hong Kong executive council, for depriving



the people of the colony of a voice in their future. "The people of Hong Kong are faced yet again with paying the price for a dispute which is not of their making. Once again we endure the frustration of standing by helplessly while our affairs are discussed by others," she said.

She said that Mr Patten's proposals had "triggered a barrage of hostile statements and propaganda", instead of forming the basis of dialogue. The result had been investor confidence being shaken, a slump in the stock market and professional people were again considering emigrating.

Hong Kong had to be allowed to choose what was best for itself. "The British and Chinese governments must be prepared to go as far as the community is prepared to go, no further, but no less far," she pressed both countries to "iron out difficulties across the negotiating table, not through loudhailers".

Lord MacLehose of Becho, a former governor of Hong Kong, accused Mr Patten of contravening the spirit of the 1990 agreement between Britain and China. He criticised the governor for making his proposals known via the media rather than through

normal diplomatic channels, although he said that he may have been prompted by frustration at the ineffectiveness of Sino-British relations. Baroness Chalker, the foreign affairs minister, said it was not the governor's proposals that had unsettled the Hong Kong stock market but China's "increasingly strident propaganda attacks". She agreed with Lord Geddes, who opened the debate, that "the sooner the megaphones are put away the better".

There was no change in the government's desire fully to implement the terms of the 1984 joint declaration and work closely with the Chinese government "to ensure a smooth transition in Hong Kong", Lady Chalker said.

The governor's proposals for increasing democratic representation for the people of Hong Kong were just that, proposals, she insisted. If the Chinese government objected to them, the most constructive course they could take would be to put forward suggestions of their own. They would have to be made soon as draft legislation would need to be completed early next year or any new arrangements could not be in place for the district board elections in 1994.

Keeping a smile on the tiger's face

Mandarin and kowtow are two of the few Chinese words adopted by English, and both sum up an attitude that successive senior British policy advisers are accused of displaying towards Peking.

Much of the Chinese anger at proposals for wider democracy in Hong Kong stems from the refusal to pay obeisance, writes Michael Binyon

Much of the Chinese anger at the proposals for wider democracy in Hong Kong by Chris Patten, the governor, stems from the sharp break in policy this refusal to pay obeisance represents. Since the triumph of Mao Tse-tung's communists in 1949, and especially since the cultural revolution in 1967, Britain has been wary of antagonising a power that has remained both mysterious and, as far as Hong Kong is concerned, directly threatening to British interests.

Successive governments, conscious of the dangers of blundering into decisions whose hidden consequences could be disastrous, have relied heavily on the small pool of people who can offer expert advice: the China hands. These are mostly high-flying career diplomats, but the Foreign Office has also been influenced by distinguished academics.

Regional experts are involved in policy-making in all areas, but few identify with their field as closely as the China-watchers, or make as many allowances for different standards and ways of thinking. Few indeed — except perhaps the Arabists — are as frequently accused of going native.

China demands an unusual dedication and intensity. The language alone can take four years to master. Those who break through into the Chinese — and, in addition, communist — mindset feel impelled to explain Chinese actions in this context, and make allowances for it.

Two things have increased the influence of China experts over the past 30 years: the cultural revolution and the end of the British empire. The burning of the British embassy in Peking in 1967 was a traumatic event for the Foreign Office. It reinforced the belief that Britain could not deal with an angry China. It may also have convinced some that such thuggish behaviour was so extreme that there was no point in a confrontational approach to China, as the Chinese were always ready to go to extremes. This explains why some sinologists are regarded as appeasers.

The end of empire elsewhere in the world meant the influence of colonial administrators with region-

al expertise was diminished in the Foreign Office — except over Hong Kong. Not only did this remaining colony's affairs become relatively more visible, but the vulnerability of Hong Kong to China was increasingly exposed, for this was the only colony not heading for independence but for a return to a country which already controlled its food and water lifelines.

Not all drew the conclusion that China must be handled with special care. Derek Davies, a former editor of *The Far East Economic Review*, says the insistence by Sir David Trench, the governor of Hong Kong during the cultural revolution, not to release detained leftwing extremists despite Foreign Office pleadings did not, in the end, cause the colony any harm. Peking finally retreated from its threats.

Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, who trained as a China expert and learnt Mandarin, also appears to have drawn an early conclusion that a firm stand pays off. In his novel *The Smile on the Face of the Tiger* published in the early 1970s he showed how China could be confronted. As foreign secretary he has supported Mr Patten: his close relationship with the prime minister may also explain Mr Major's decision to take a more robust attitude to China than Mrs Thatcher.

The former prime minister was impressed by Sir Percy Cradock, the man most identified as the opponent of Mr Patten's policies, precisely because she saw him as tough and a man who negotiated with skill, getting the best deal for Britain over Hong Kong. Sir Percy has insisted that he advocates a policy most likely to achieve the results Britain wants, both in Hong Kong and in bilateral relations.

But opponents of the line he and other sinologists have taken say that events have moved on and the experts have not kept pace. They say the collapse of communism and the other changes in 1990 and 1991 have meant that the Chinese themselves are now under pressure: there is no need therefore for British policy to accommodate itself to the view in Peking.



Racial violence attacked

A measure to outlaw racist violence gained an unopposed formal first reading in the Commons yesterday. David Winnick, the Labour MP for Walsall North, introduced the racial violence bill, which would specifically make racial violence a criminal offence.

He said that in Britain there had been an alarming increase in violence, with at least four murders arising from racist attacks during the past year. "Thugs are thugs, regardless of colour, nationality or religion," he said. Mr Winnick's 10-minute rule bill has little chance of becoming law because of lack of time.

Portrait back

The portrait of Baroness Thatcher at Westminster, on which a Hitler moustache appeared recently, has been restored and rehung, Ray Powell, chairman of the Commons accommodation and works committee, said.

TV cost rises

A colour TV licence will cost £83 from next April, Peter Brooke, the heritage secretary, said. The rise is based on the increase on the September RPI. A black and white licence will be £27.50.

In Parliament

Commons (2.30): Questions: Treasury; prime minister. Debate on coastal protection and planning.

Fishermen warned of low stocks

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY

The government will do everything possible to protect the fishing industry at next week's talks in Brussels and will oppose "unnecessary and inappropriate" EC proposals which would keep cod and haddock fishing boats tied up in harbour for ten days a month, Sir Hector Monro said in the Commons last night.

However, Sir Hector, the Scottish agriculture and fisheries minister, said there needed to be close attention paid to conservation. Apart from haddock stocks, he said, "the general picture continues to be very worrying". There were several species whose allowable catches could not be increased.

Opening the annual Commons debate on the fishing industry, Sir Hector referred to protests by Scottish fishermen against rules governing their catches. "We are well aware of the protests that have been going on in Lochinver and the Firth of Forth today and we understand them. But at the same time the fishermen must understand our difficulty in conceding more fish than conservation will permit."

For the Opposition, Gavin Strang protested at the "crisis" in the fishing industry, saying: "Prices have been low, quotas have been fished out, boats have been standing idle." He accused the government of having failed the fishermen.

"The blockade at Lochinver is a timely manifestation of the frustration which now exists in the industry. Nobody in the Labour party wants to see action of this nature. But the incident does reflect the all-time low to which relations have fallen."

Dixons

NEW FAX/PHONE/ANSWER MACHINE & COPIER UNDER £400

NEW ORION 500 FAX/PHONE/ANSWERING MACHINE/COPIER

- Automatic selection of receiving mode for incoming voice/fax messages
- One touch and short code
- memory dialling
- Automatic paper cutter
- and document feeder
- Delay transmission
- facility.

Includes 12 months on-site service.

Dixons Deal

£399.99 inc. VAT **£340.42** NEW



SAVE £20 WITH THIS VOUCHER **HURRY! 5 DAYS ONLY**

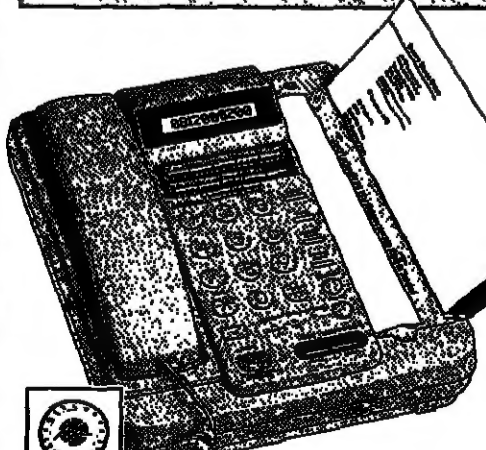
AMSTRAD FX6000AT FAX/PHONE/ANSWERING MACHINE AND COPIER

High quality answer machine with tone dial pad to remotely access your messages. Includes 12 months on-site service. In-store Price £499.99 inc. VAT, £425.52 ex. VAT

VOUCHER PRICE **£479.99** inc. VAT **£408.50**

Dixons Discount Voucher

IDEAL FAX FOR YOUR HOME



AMSTRAD FX7000 FAXPHONE

Fully featured speaker phone, with built-in fax. Memory dialling. Copy facility. 'Straight fax' technology reduces paper curling. Mercury compatible. Plus 12 months on-site service.

Dixons Deal

£299.99 inc. VAT **£255.31** NEW

FAX - THE EASY WAY TO COMMUNICATE

A fax machine saves you time and money. It's easy to use and can send documents in seconds. It costs a fraction of a courier's charge and is cheaper than first class post for a single A4 sheet (sent within the UK).

SAMSUNG SF5000 FAX & PHONE

Automatic telephone reception. Fax transmission and reception report. Includes 12 months on-site service.

Dixons Deal **£279.99** inc. VAT **£238.29** ex. VAT

BRITISH TELECOM CP65 FAX & PHONE

Automatic redial. Transmission report polling facility. Includes 12 months on-site service.

Dixons Deal **£349.99** inc. VAT **£297.55** ex. VAT

SHARP UX-130 FAX & PHONE

Automatic telephone changeover with answering machine hook-up facility. Includes 12 months on-site service.

Dixons Deal **£399.99** inc. VAT **£340.42** ex. VAT

TOSHIBA TPE32 FAX/PHONE

Automatic selection of receiving mode, test dialling, one touch dialling. Music on hold. Includes 12 months on-site service.

Dixons Deal **£499.99** inc. VAT **£425.52** ex. VAT

PANASONIC KX-F2060 FAX/PHONE/ANSWERING MACHINE

Top feature answering system. Superior transmission. Includes 12 months on-site service.

Dixons Deal **£549.99** inc. VAT **£468.50** ex. VAT

CANON T50 FAX/PHONE

100 metre paper roll, auto telephone selection. Delay transmission facility. Includes 12 months on-site service.

Dixons Deal **£599.99** inc. VAT **£510.83** ex. VAT

At Dixons

YOU NOW GET 12 MONTHS ON-SITE SERVICE

- Service is available in your office or home for 12 months at no extra charge. This is included with most PCs, WPs, Fax Machines and Printers.
- Exclusive After-Sales Hotline Support For advice on your new hardware or software, just dial our special DIXONS PC PLUS HOTLINE: 0800 707707. Expertly-trained staff will be on hand to help you Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm.
- Prices are shown both including and excluding VAT. The price shown is the price you pay.

the BUSINESS CENTRE

Dixons

YOU CAN'T BUY BETTER THIS CHRISTMAS

MANY STORES OPEN SUNDAY Check with your local store for details.

OVER 175 BUSINESS CENTRES. Call 081-200 0200 for details.

Dixons welcome all major credit cards including Access, Visa, Style, American Express and Diners Club.

Brita win o

By PHILIP WEBB

... taking

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

Ministers shape budget compromise

Britain seeks to win over Danes

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent, and George Brock in Brussels



BRITAIN yesterday tabled fresh proposals designed to secure agreement at the Edinburgh summit on plans that will encourage the Danish people to accept the Maastricht treaty in a second referendum.

At the same time, ministers put the final touches to expected compromise proposals on the future financing of the European Community that John Major hopes will secure a breakthrough at the Council of Ministers' gathering tomorrow and Saturday.

The new document goes some way to meeting the concerns raised by Denmark on the original paper put forward by Britain last week. However, in order to satisfy countries which felt that the initial plan made too many concessions to Denmark, the Edinburgh declaration will now look less like a treaty in its own right. It makes plain that the rest of the EC will move towards economic and political union irrespective of Denmark's desire for opt-outs on the single currency, defence, justice and citizenship provisions of the Maastricht treaty.

The proposals envisage a formal statement by all 12 countries outlining how the EC intends to treat Denmark's

no renegotiation of the treaty. The prime minister travels to Edinburgh today to hold pre-summit talks with Jacques Delors, the European commission president, and President Mitterrand of France. The meeting was called off yesterday because Mr Major had to make a Commons statement about the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales.

Yesterday in Brussels, M Delors said that ten EC states would press on with European unification if Britain and Denmark didn't sign the Maastricht treaty. He admitted that the EC was in difficulties and that "we had dreamt of another kind of 1992". He said that the Community's combination of economic malaise and political problems with the treaty on political and monetary union might lead either to a "passing but violent crisis or to a long latent crisis".

M Delors echoed the warning delivered to Britain and Denmark by M Mitterrand yesterday that Maastricht would be revived by the ratifying states if all 12 governments did not approve it. Seven states have ratified the treaty and the total should rise to ten by the end of the year.

"I can only hope the construction of Europe will go ahead with those who are willing to share this ambition and shoulder their share of the international responsibility," M Delors said. "My feeling is that if some don't want to do it, others will."

On the eve of the summit, British officials also spoke of "enormous differences" remaining between the sides on future financing. Although they declined to give details they admitted that new proposals will be tabled before the summit opens tomorrow. They are likely to set the level of Community spending above the figure of 1.25 per cent of gross national product suggested in the original British plan, but below the 1.32 per cent figure sought by M Delors in his reworked package.

Danes spurn deal, page 12

desire for special treatment but there will also be a unilateral declaration by Denmark explaining how it will not be bound by some of the treaty provisions. Britain has amended its original plan to ensure that a special EC declaration on Denmark will have the status of a European Council decision rather than one taken under the framework of inter-governmental co-operation.

The summit will have to make decisions on the legal form of the special agreement being allowed for Denmark.

Paul Schuster, the Danish prime minister, will insist that it has to be legally binding to enable him to put it to his country in a second referendum, but the rest of the EC is adamant that there should be

Security machine rolls into action



On their bikes, police motorcycle escort riders preparing for tomorrow's European Community summit in Edinburgh. Euro-fever has taken hold of the Scottish capital, and in the next few days 2,500 journalists, photographers, electricians, engineers, producers and other interested hangers-on are expected to arrive as well as officials, dignitaries and ministers (Ray Clancy writes).

Terrorism is a serious concern. Lothian and Borders police are mounting their biggest security operation ever and have set up road blocks similar to those recently started against the IRA in London to check on vans and other suspicious vehicles.

At the weekend, police seized a number of computer discs from a stall at a market in Glasgow. The E3 disc shows how to make a variety of explosives, radio-controlled devices and nitroglycerine.

But for the ordinary man and woman in the street, the whole thing is a nuisance. They are used to thousands descending every summer for the festival and fringe, but

resent the arrival of the politicians and their entourage. Jugglers, buskers and fire-eaters are welcome. John Major and his fellow Europeans are not. "I really don't know why they had to come here to Edinburgh. It is not as if they care about Scotland or about our needs," said Jean MacDonald, who is worried that her Christmas shopping will be interrupted.

Those on the receiving end are happier. Shopkeepers are looking forward to a bumper week and the shops are crammed with goodies. Everything from full Highland dress to heather honey, Arran sweaters and Shetland shawls are prominently displayed along with malt whisky, oatcakes and haggis.

Edinburgh district council estimates that £11 million will pour into the city from the summit and the associated events. Delegates and visitors are expected to spend more than £4 million, with the media contributing £2 million. "This is the most magnificent event Edinburgh has been host to for 50 years," said Norman Irons, the Lord

Provost. Overall, the summit is costing £6.5 million, including the creation of conference facilities inside Holyrood, with the bills being met from government funds.

The transformation of the palace is complete. Many

antiques have been moved out and telephone lines, fax machines, computers and desks installed in the King's bedchamber, the four-poster stands surrounded by office equipment. It was deemed too fragile to move.

Tebbit hopes for a weekend of failure

By Our Political Staff

LORD Tebbit, the former Conservative chairman, has told party activists that a complete failure of the European Community summit could be good for Britain.

He said it had proved good news for the country when the government was forced to leave the exchange rate mechanism in September. Lord Tebbit said: "What we now need is a bit more good luck, above all what many ministers would describe as a terrible failure at the Edinburgh summit. A complete failure to

agree on any formula to sweet talk, butly and con the Danes into accepting the servitude of Maastricht — that's what we need."

He told Tories at a Conservative association dinner in Bradford that he was optimistic about the country's future. Lord Tebbit, formerly the MP for Chingford, said that good money supply figures, improved shop and car sales, a competitive exchange rate, and the lowest interest rates in the Community gave grounds for hope.

Rabin puts racism on agenda

By Our Foreign Staff

YITZHAK Rabin, the Israeli prime minister, said yesterday that John Major had agreed to raise the problem of increasing anti-Semitism in Europe at the Edinburgh summit.

Mr Rabin, speaking in Downing Street after nearly three hours of talks, also said that the prime minister had offered him a "friendly approach" and a readiness to understand Israeli problems.

He declined to give details on the talks, his first with Mr Major, but said that the prime minister had "agreed to bring many issues up at the meeting in Edinburgh... anti-Semitism, the Arab boycott [of Israel]."

Mr Rabin, on the second day of a three-day working visit to Britain, his first since becoming leader in June, added: "I extended an official invitation to the prime minister of Britain... to visit Israel and be accepted. I hope that in the spring of next year we will have the official visit of Prime Minister Major to Israel."

The Israeli leader had said that he would appeal to Mr Major as EC president to give priority to bringing to discussion racism and anti-Semitism in Europe. "If the European Community will not come up and stand up, we'll make their life miserable," he told British supporters of Israel on Tuesday. "This is our role as a Jewish state."

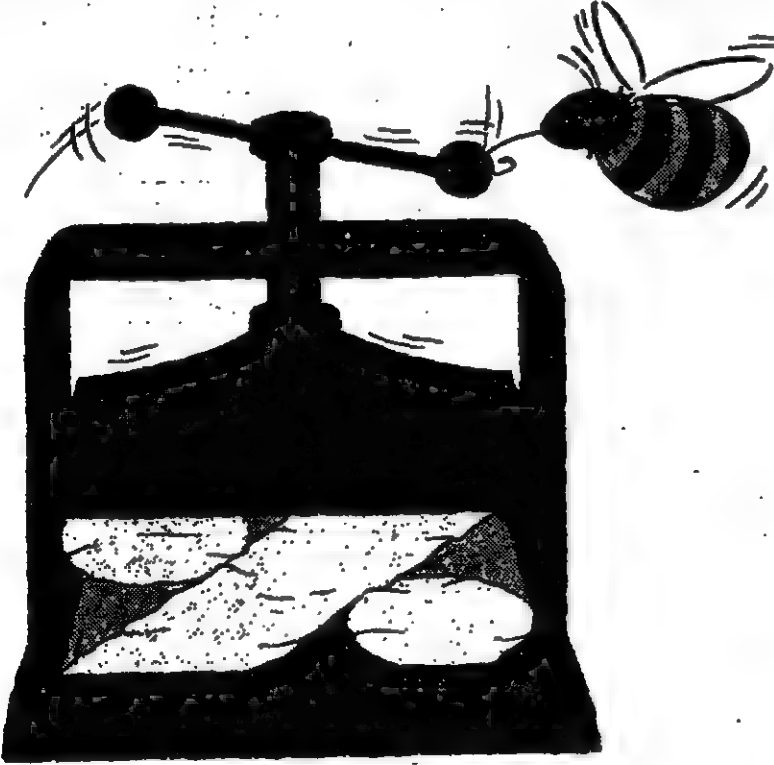
Mr Rabin said in Italy on Sunday that the rise of racial violence and anti-Semitism in Europe had rekindled memories of the second world war and the Nazi German extermination of six million Jews. German right-wingers have carried out nearly 2,000 attacks on foreigners and Holocaust memorials this year.

A British official said that Mr Rabin also briefed Mr Major, and Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary on the Arab-Israeli peace talks.

Mr Hurd said last week it was "almost impossible to imagine an Israeli government better disposed to making peace than Mr Rabin's".

Youths shot, page 13
Neo-Nazi curbs, page 13

N&P HAS SQUEEZED MORTGAGE RATES TO THEIR LOWEST LEVEL FOR 30 YEARS!



5.95% PA (APR 8.8%)

FOR FIRST TIME BUYERS - FIXED UNTIL 1994!

At N&P we're committed to helping people find the right mortgage. If you're looking to buy your first home, but are concerned about mortgage repayments, then N&P's Guaranteed Rate Mortgage for First Time Buyers could well be for you. It offers an extremely low rate of interest - 5.95% pa (for loans below 90% of property valuation) - and a commitment that the rate is fixed until 1 January 1994, guaranteeing you peace of mind in the early years of home ownership. Taking out a Guaranteed Rate Mortgage couldn't be easier. Simply pop into your nearest N&P branch or call our helpline now, free, between 8am and 8pm 7 days a week on

0800 50 60 70



No-one's busier on your behalf

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

T710.12.92M

REAL CHRISTMAS TREES



5ft, 6ft or 7ft
£5.99 EACH
Real Cut Norway Spruce Trees. Sprayed to reduce needle drop. (Decorations extra)

ALSO AVAILABLE
Norway Spruce Christmas Trees 2-2 1/2" approx. potted in red 7.5 litre container **£6.99 each**
Real Cut Nordmanniana Christmas Trees 5', 6', or 7' approx. **£14.95 each**

At B&Q our selection of real Christmas Trees are available from stores with Garden Centres only. We also stock a huge range of artificial trees, lights, baubles and decorations.



OPEN 8AM TO 8PM MONDAY TO SATURDAY
Most stores also open Sundays 9am-6pm.
RING 081-466 4166 FOR YOUR NEAREST STORE
Offers are subject to availability. Please phone to check before travelling. Sizes shown are approximate.

ing a smile
tiger's face

AV DEATH

around the town

Racial violence attacked

Fisher warm low

Britain back

TV and rivers

In Parliament

THE TIMES THURSDAY DECEMBER 10 1992

Gaidar snub undermines Yeltsin's authority

FROM ANNE McELVOY IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S Congress of People's Deputies yesterday dealt a severe blow to President Yeltsin's authority, and the country's radical economic reforms, by rejecting Yegor Gaidar, his candidate for the post of prime minister.

Mr Gaidar's candidacy was rejected by a 19-vote margin in a secret ballot in which he needed a simple majority of the 140 deputies to win. The defeat came despite substantial concessions from Mr Yeltsin giving the conservative parliament the right of veto over his four key ministerial appointments. It rounds off a damaging Congress in which conservatives, feeding on the government's economic woes, have eliminated key issues.

Th failure to have Mr

Gaidar confirmed in the post he has held in an acting capacity since June deepens the troubles of the Yeltsin government and is likely to slow down the country's transition from a command to a market economy. Aleksandr Shokhin, a deputy prime minister, responded to the news by saying that he and other liberals in the government were "itching to resign" but that no decision had been reached on the government's response.

Mr Gaidar, however, said later that the government should stay in office for the time being and carry on calmly. He said: "The result of the vote is no surprise to us, we did not have any illusions about our popularity at the Congress."

He added that the narrow margin reflected the attitude of the entire population to reforms. "One cannot say that the whole of the Russian people treats the results of our government's work with deep approval. Half support reforms while the other half does not and we have more work to do in convincing that half."

The setback is likely to increase Mr Yeltsin's hostility to Congress, which has consistently failed to support his reforms, and he may well feel that it is time to begin gathering the million signatures needed for a referendum on abolishing the assembly entirely. He has even spoken of bypassing the constitution and dissolving Congress by decree if its intransigence makes it a threat to reform.

Mr Yeltsin must now decide whether to struggle on with Mr Gaidar in the post of acting prime minister, at some cost to the authority of the cabinet, or find a compromise candidate for the job. The first indications from the Yeltsin camp were that the president intended to retain him as acting prime minister until the next session of Congress in March.

But Mr Gaidar's position has undoubtedly been weakened by the vote and it is likely that alternative reform strategies will now be pressed on Mr Yeltsin. Arkadi Volsky, founder member of the centre-right Civic Union and a possible challenger for Mr Gaidar's post, said that the government's problems had sprung from the excessive influence of the acting prime minister and his free market philosophy over its economic policies.

Leading article, page 19

Growing unrest forces Delhi parliament to adjourn

BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF



Crying out loud: Hindu and Muslim women pleading for help from soldiers during a protest march yesterday in a Bombay shanty town

THE death toll in three days of religious confrontation in India rose to more than 600 yesterday as the army helped police and paramilitary forces maintain curfews in scores of cities.

In Delhi, parliament broke up in pandemonium as delegates made an unprecedented decision to adjourn for a week to return to their homes to try to stop the unrest.

The violence engulfed Bombay, India's commercial capital, for a third consecutive day, taking the death toll there to 115.

Almost every Muslim quarter of larger cities across the country is under curfew, and there is hardship among people too poor to stockpile food. Muslims in Delhi took to their rooftops in protest while police forces patrolled the streets yesterday selling milk and basic commodities in an attempt to ease tensions.

In Bangladesh, five people were killed in communal violence, including three children burnt alive when their house was set on fire by Muslim mobs.

Clinton to list budget advisers

Washington: Bill Clinton, the US president-elect, is expected to name today his economic team. As well as confirming Lloyd Bentsen as Treasury secretary, he is expected to name Leon Panetta, House budget committee chairman, as his budget director, and Robe Rubin, an investment banker, as head of his economic security council.

Mr Clinton is also expected to appoint a woman as attorney-general. The leading candidates are said to be Judge Patricia Wald, Judge Amy C. Koz, Judge Judith Kaye, and Myer Brodsky Born.

No-Nazi curbs

Bonn: The German government decided to ask the Supreme Court to curb the civil rights of two leading neo-Nazis, Thomas Dismel, the leader of the German National party, and Heinz Reiser, removing their freedom of expression and right of assembly.

Farrow's story

New York: Mia Farrow, the actress, has agreed to sell her autobiography to publisher Bantam Doubleday Dell, reportedly for \$3 million (£1.88 million). The deal is seen as her latest against Woody Allen, the film-maker and her former lover.

Youths shot on intifada anniversary

FROM BEN LYNFIELD IN BEIT SAHOUR, WEST BANK

ISRAELI soldiers shot dead a teenager yesterday, on the fifth anniversary of the Palestinian uprising. Another was shot the evening before.

A 17-year-old youth was shot dead near Jenin, on the West Bank, after hurling a petrol bomb at security forces, army officers said. Hazem Urboun, 18, was killed in Beit Sahour, south of Jerusalem, on Tuesday night. Troops opened fire on him after ordering him to halt, believing that he was a member of a "terrorist gang", an army spokesman said. Relatives said he was shot without warning from close range by soldiers who disguised themselves as Arabs.

Palestinians throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip observed a general strike to mark the anniversary, closing shops and schools.

In the Gaza Strip, where the uprising began, more than 400,000 residents were confined to their homes for the second day as troops swept the area for Muslim fundamentalist gunmen who shot dead three soldiers on Monday. Navy boats patrolled the coast, enforcing a ban on sea traffic. In Beit Sahour, the army ordered a curfew.

In Washington, a Palestinian peace negotiator announced a one-day halt to the talks to mark the anniversary.

100 killed as Afghan troops clash with militia

FROM REUTERS IN KABUL

FORMER communist militia arriving in the Afghan capital to reinforce their positions clashed with government forces in four days of fighting, but the defence ministry said yesterday that a ceasefire had

begun to take hold. About 100 people have been killed and hundreds injured since the fighting erupted between the Shura-Nazar group of Ahmad Shah Masood, the defence minister, and the Shia Muslim Hezb-i-Wahadat party.

Earlier reports from United

Nationssources in the city said a coup could be under way as large numbers of militia fighters moved on to the streets, and rockets landed around the defence ministry and presidential palace.

The fighting was the worst since August when Gulbuddin Hekmatyar pounded Kabul

for three weeks with rocket fire that killed 2,500 people and injured thousands.

□ Tashkent: Refugees fleeing the civil war in Tajikistan are dying in freezing weather on the border with Afghanistan. Vitali Gritsan, a Russian general, said yesterday.

He said about 20,000 Tajik

refugees had crossed into Afghanistan in the past two weeks but 100,000 are stranded along the frontier with only Russian border guards to help them. "Some have makeshift tents made from blankets but many have nothing. A lot of them are dying every day in freezing cold."

Disabled people and their carers who have moved from the United Kingdom to another European Community country.



entitled, please use a separate form or piece of paper for each person, giving information as set out in the form. Please send the form to:

The Benefits Agency, PO Box No 147, Blackpool, England FY2 0YP.

You should have an acknowledgement within 28 days.

PLEASE USE CAPITAL LETTERS THROUGHOUT

I want you to look again at the claim that was disallowed because the person named below went to another EC country.

Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms _____ Surname _____

Forenames _____

Name when the allowance was claimed, if different _____

Date of Birth: day _____ month _____ year _____

National Insurance Number (if known) _____

Please tick the benefits to which the above named may be entitled and give the reference number if known:

☐ Attendance Allowance - Reference No. _____

☐ Invalid Care Allowance - Reference No. _____

☐ Mobility Allowance - Reference No. _____

☐ Disability Living Allowance - Reference No. _____

Country where the above person was paid the allowance before being disallowed,

☐ England, Wales or Scotland ☐ Northern Ireland

Present Name and Address for correspondence (please print)

Name _____

Address _____

_____ Country _____

Signature _____ Date _____

If you are not the person named above, what is your relationship to that person? _____

benefits
ba
agency

Issued by the Department of Social Security

Forte Hotels Christmas Shopping Special



Get closer to the bargains!

There are great Christmas bargains all over London, so it's the best place to catch up on all those last minute presents. And what better at the end of a long day shopping than to relax in the comfort of a superb Forte Hotel?

By yourself or with a friend, you can choose from any of the hotels listed here, all in the very heart of London's shopping area. These Christmas Shopping Specials are only available between Friday 18th - Thursday 24th December. You can choose how long you stay, and your stay includes:

- One or more consecutive nights' accommodation in a twin double or single room with private bathroom
- Full traditional breakfast each morning for each guest
- Colour TV in every room
- VAT

FROM ONLY
£40
PER ROOM
(For up to 2 people)
PER NIGHT
INCLUDING BREAKFAST

BOOK NOW ON
0345 40 40 40

Bookings must be made by
15th December 1992

Offer available
18th - 24th December 1992
Please quote reference: A218018
or see your local travel agent

FORTE
HOTELS

£40 PER ROOM PER NIGHT WITH BREAKFAST

The Kensington Close, The Strand Palace.

£80 PER ROOM PER NIGHT WITH BREAKFAST

Forte Crest Regents Park, Forte Crest Bloomsbury, Hotel Russell.

The Cumberland Hotel.

£90 PER ROOM PER NIGHT WITH BREAKFAST

Grosvenor House, Forte Crest St James's, The Westbury.

All night bookings subject to availability with a limited number of rooms available at these promotional rates. All details correct at time of publication. Offer only valid from 18th-24th December 1992. Prices are per room per night inclusive of breakfast in a twin, double or single room. Offer only valid on rooms listed above and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Bookings must be made by 15th December 1992. Offer only valid on rooms listed above and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Bookings must be made by 15th December 1992.

Rifkind rules out armed intervention

Sarajevo aid flights halted for ninth day

By RICHARD BEESTON IN SPLIT AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

SARAJEVO'S link with the outside world, its road to the airport, reopened yesterday morning, but aid flights remained suspended, exacerbating the supply shortages in the Bosnian capital.

As Britain and other Western powers debated military intervention to stop the conflict in the former Yugoslav republic, Nato sources were reported as saying that the organisation had drawn up plans for use if the United Nations approves the enforcement of the "no-fly" zone over Bosnia, air strikes against Serbian targets or the deployment of peacekeepers in troubled areas such as Kosovo.

However, Malcolm Rifkind, the defence secretary, ruled out military intervention as a means of halting the civil war and emphasised that British forces in Bosnia should remain at their present strength and conduct purely humanitarian missions.

Speaking after a two-day inspection of British troops in

central Bosnia and meetings with UN relief officials, Mr Rifkind said he was more convinced than ever that the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina could not be ended peacefully by a foreign force. "What I have seen reinforces the judgment that it would be most unwise to use UN forces to bring this conflict to an end," he said at a press conference on board the Royal Fleet Auxiliary ship *Argus* in Split. "No-one I have met believes it could be done by the UN without a huge increase in force for an indefinite period of time," he added.

In Sarajevo yesterday, a shell hit the Holiday Inn, where many of the foreign press corps are based. There was some damage to the building but no casualties. Heavy shelling continued north of the capital, at Zuc hill, a Muslim-held area, and Buca Potok. In general, however, the city was quiet.

In Geneva, Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb lead-

er, accused government forces of provoking the latest fighting to put pressure on the UN for military intervention.

A spokesman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees said ten UNHCR lorries carrying 150 tonnes of relief supplies for the 380,000 people trapped in the capital had arrived from Vitez, about 60 miles to the north. The UNHCR hopes to send two more convoys to Sarajevo today, but a United Nations protection force source said the airport, closed to relief flights for the past nine days, was not likely to open until Monday at the earliest.

London: Calls for greater armed intervention in Bosnia were made yesterday at the launch of an all-party group of MPs, peers and scholars. Action for Bosnia called for the end of the UN arms embargo against Bosnia and the creation of UN safe havens in Bosnian-held territory.

Leading article, page 19



Package tour: Milan Panic, the Yugoslav prime minister, hands out packets of sweets to refugee children in Serbia. Yesterday the Supreme Court cleared the way for him to stand in the Serbian presidential elections

Court lets Panic run for election

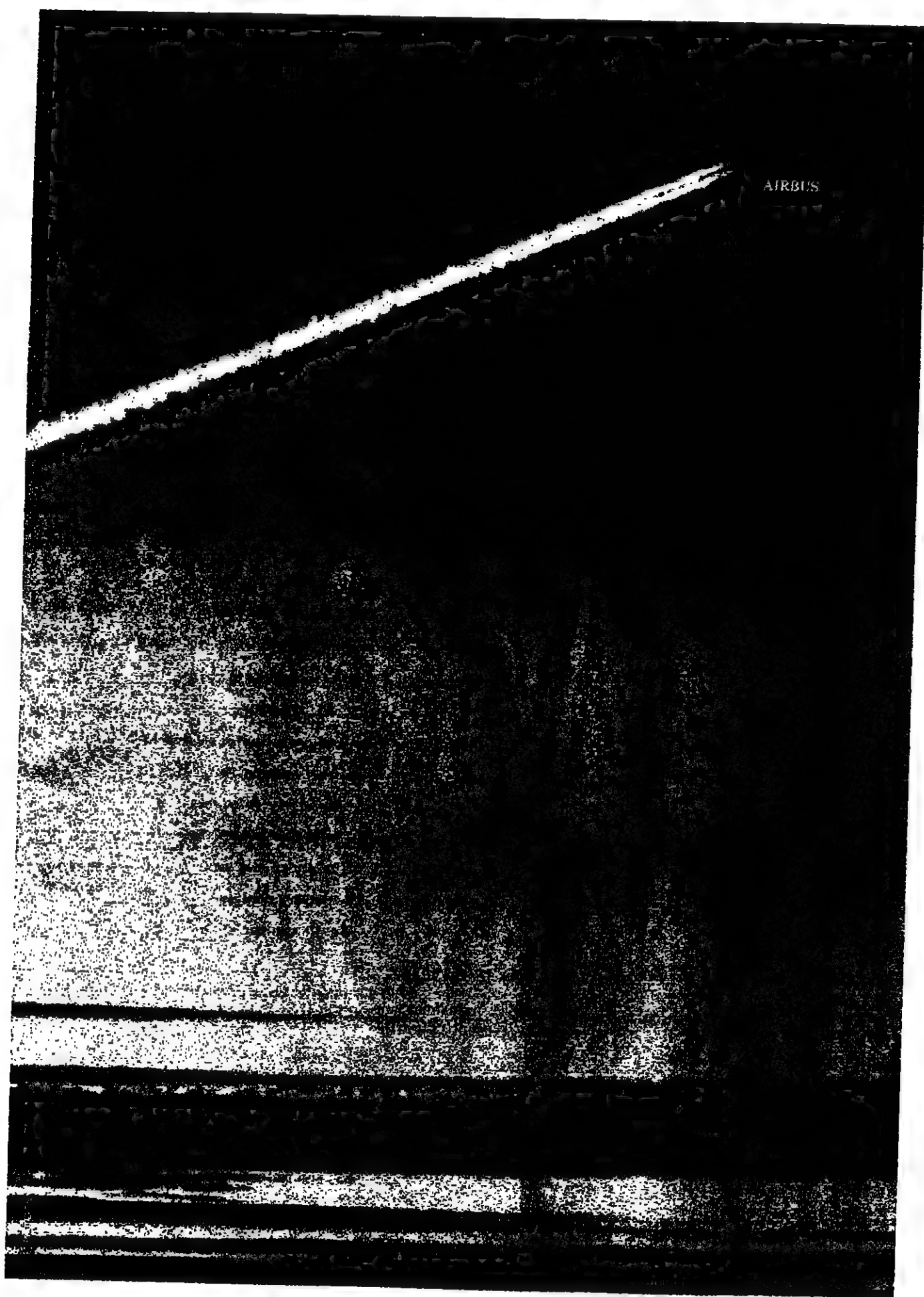
FROM JOVAN KOVACKI IN BELGRADE

SERBIA'S supreme court yesterday finally allowed Milan Panic, the moderate Yugoslav prime minister, to run against Slobodan Milosevic Serbia's hardline president, in elections scheduled for December 20. Mr Panic immediately challenged Mr Milosevic to a debate on state-run television. "This will ensure the Serbian people can judge the candidates fairly," he said.

The court upheld Mr Panic's appeal against a ruling by the Serb electoral commission on December 5 that he could not run because he had not been resident in Serbia for at least a year. He returned to Serbia from California earlier this year. The supreme court's decision is binding and Mr Panic has been officially included in the list of candidates.

Mr Panic forecasts victory despite starting late and receiving unfavourable coverage on state-run television, which has openly sided with Mr Milosevic. Polls saw Mr Panic leading with 44 per cent against Mr Milosevic's 40.3 per cent. (Reuters)

Together we have reached the height of success.
(and you know what success breeds.)



Cooperation between
Aerospatiale and British
aerospace industries has
stood the test of time. More
than 20 years ago their
combined skills gave birth
to Concorde and to the age
of supersonic transport.
Today, Aerospatiale and
British Aerospace continue
their close collaboration
in the European Airbus
programme - the 1800
aircraft which have been sold
demonstrate the high degree
of technological and
commercial achievement
they have reached together.
Achievement which has
also stimulated further
cooperation in the
development of joint
defence programmes.
As never before, the
continued growth of the
French and British aerospace
industries now depends
on maintaining this level
of cooperation.

AEROSPATIALE

ACHIEVEMENT HAS A NAME

Dubrovnik yearns for tourist revival

By RICHARD BEESTON

THE hard-pressed inhabitants of Dubrovnik are eagerly awaiting the arrival today of the first passenger flight in 15 months, as a sign that the city's once thriving tourist industry will make a comeback in the new year.

Although the heavily over-subscribed Croatian airlines flight, the first of three weekly flights from the capital Zagreb, will mainly be carrying journalists and VIPs, there is a palpable sense that the walled medieval port city is set to reclaim its title as the jewel of the Adriatic.

"The arrival of the plane means that we are back to normality, back to peace," said Vesna Gamulin, one of 70,000 citizens who braved the worst of last autumn's Serbian siege and are confident the city can rebuild.

Although the fighting in most of Croatia stopped months ago, the hundreds of thousands of tourists, mainly from Italy and Germany, who used to drive or sail down the Dalmatian coast each year have been put off returning, probably by daily television pictures of fierce fighting in nearby Bosnia-Herzegovina.

So far only the most determined tourists have ventured back, foremost among them thousands of Christian pilgrims determined to witness the regular sightings of the Virgin Mary at Mejugorje, a few miles northwest of Dubrovnik. The only other foreign visitors, aside from journalists and aid workers, are the curious or those with a sentimental attachment. "Some people, who returned here year after year on their holidays, have come back to show support," said Ms Gamulin. "One visitor from Belgium even returned to Slano (north of Dubrovnik) with enough glass to repair all the town's broken windows."

Even Dubrovnik's most optimistic residents admit that the city still has a long way to go before it can attract the large numbers of pre-war holidaymakers, whom it would be impossible to accommodate properly today.

Many of the main hotels in the centre of town are occupied by refugees from dying areas whose homes were destroyed by the Serbs. Many vital repairs to the city's monuments and other main tourist sights have still not been completed.

Nevertheless, Ivan



Former glory: the port city before the war

Misatich, Croatian airlines sales manager, who organised the reopening of flights to Dubrovnik, is confident that the ancient city will bounce back on its feet. "We made a point of having our own stand at the international travel fair in London three weeks ago so let people know that we were back in business and that it was safe to visit Croatia," he said. He added that trips from Britain to the Dalmatian coast were being handled by the city named Phoenix travel company.

'I would go hungry for a week for a gun'

FROM ADAM LEBOR IN ZENICA, BOSNIA

For Samir Bidic, the 25-year-old of Zenica — such as they are — remain far out of reach. Compared to nearby Travnik, however, the town is an oasis of peace and plenty.

Market stalls are piled high with fresh fruit and bananas, Richard Gere and Julia Roberts star in *Pretty Woman* at the local cinema. Armed soldiers control access at mined checkpoints, but Zenica is out of reach of Serb artillery.

Together with more than 600 Bosnian refugees Samir, 25, lives in a nearby school, fed twice a day on a diet of mostly rice and spaghetti. As European Community leaders prepare to discuss immigration at the Edinburgh summit, the victims of Europe's worst refugee crisis since the second world war are bitter about the West's failure to come to their aid.

"The people here deserve to go somewhere else. Unless the West takes them in they will be the new nomads of Europe," said Samir. He arrived in Zenica

after being held at Keraterm, a Serb detention camp.

"The main thing is to stop the arms embargo. I would go hungry for a week to have a gun. Turkey and the Muslim countries are doing more than the West for us," he said. "If Bosnia is divided and we are only left with a small part, we will have a liberation organisation and I will join it, that's 100 per cent certain."

The scene inside the school's sports hall is one all too familiar across former Yugoslavia. The air is warm and stale, the smell of unwashed bodies mingling with disinfectant fumes.

"We want to go anywhere, as long as we don't have to stay here," said Aida, a mother of three in her thirties whose husband is held in a Serb-run camp. "The EC give us promises but they don't do much. I don't know why the West won't take more refugees, but I feel betrayed. If they don't find a place for us, they might as well kill us."

1. Introduction



THE NEW KNIGHTS OF THE ROAD.

We have finally solved the most frustrating breakdown problem. It's not a flat tyre. It's not a flat battery. It's not even an empty tank. It's communication.

Now, when you break down, you'll be in touch. Using the Colfret Lifetime service covering 98% of the UK, you can call us the second you need us with ET - the emergency car phone for RAC Members.

If you're one of the 3 million Members we expect to rescue this year, just press the dedicated RAC button. In next to no time we'll be there. The New Knights of the Road, by your side. You'll be sheltered from the notorious British weather in the safety of your own car. And even if your battery dies on you, your phone won't. ET can run on its own power source.

It's also reassuring to know you'll have immediate access to the Police. Or for that matter, the Ambulance Service or Fire Brigade.

But there's more to ET. On the one hand it may be an emergency phone. But in the other, it's a fully functional mobile phone. So you can call your family, friends or colleagues. Just as importantly, they can call you back. And if the need arises, so can we.

With ET, you can cope with all of life's little emergencies.



THE LOW COST EMERGENCY CAR PHONE.

0800 11 55 22



If you'd like more information on ET, or you'd like to join the RAC, please call us free on 0800 11 55 22. Alternatively, complete your details below and send to: RAC Motoring Services, FREEPOST (SS22/SS), BRISTOL BS3 3YU. No stamp is required.

Mr/Ms/Miss Initials Surname

Address

Postcode

Telephone No. Are you a Member of the RAC? Yes ☐ No ☐

11/23/24

John Major is not the only one with problems — as statesmen gather in Edinburgh, Roger Boyes reports on others with a home audience to please

Leaders on a summit of discontent



President François Mitterrand, at 76, is the oldest of Europe's leaders, the one head of state to have been decisively influenced by the second world war and the post-war rebuilding of the Continent. He regards Maastricht as his final, crowning achievement on Europe and will block any serious attempt to dilute it at Edinburgh. Mitterrand's popularity ratings are at their lowest point ever and whether the French will appreciate such obstinacy remains to be seen. He has not made curing unemployment his top priority — saying that it is growing far faster in Germany and Britain — despite polls that show it to be the most pressing issue for a large number of ordinary French people. He has two and a half years of his term left to run and they may be the toughest phase of his presidency.



Poul Schlüter, the 63-year-old prime minister of Denmark, is being pushed hard by the opposition Social Democrats, the largest single party in parliament, on the opt-out clauses. Denmark wants assurances that it can stay outside any future monetary union, that it will not be entangled in defence issues and that it can continue to deny voting rights to non-Danes living in Denmark. Unless he can secure these concessions, Mr Schlüter runs the real risk of having Maastricht rejected again. A No vote at the second referendum would be a damaging personal blow for him and would fatally compromise Denmark's imminent presidency of the EC. Mr Schlüter is a shrewd politician but as one commentator put it recently, "The Danes love to cock a snook at their leaders."



Chancellor Helmut Kohl does have a vision of a more closely integrated Europe, but ordinary Germans are no longer quite so sure. There is a majority in the opinion polls against a single European currency replacing the Deutschmark, while German businessmen are becoming sceptical about the effects of the single market on the economy. Polls give 62-year-old Herr Kohl an approval rating as low as 35 per cent — not enough to form a government should an election be held now. But his term runs till 1994, by which time he will have served 12 years in office, and he intends to sit out the joint crises of Europe and the economy. His priority at Edinburgh will be to demonstrate to ordinary Germans that a deeper commitment to Europe spells more growth, and more jobs.



Felipe González, Spain's prime minister, has been ten years in power and is still only 50 years old. But he is looking distinctly shaky. A general election is expected next year, and he needs to demonstrate that the Socialist government can deliver European aid and jobs. Corruption scandals have sapped the authority of the government; unemployment has risen over 10 per cent; the glitter of the "Year of Spain" (the Barcelona Olympics and the World Expo) has all but worn off. Domestic pressure to produce results, to show that Europe pays, will make Señor González the most vociferous spokesman of the poorer countries at Edinburgh. He is one of the most determined of the summiters and will be pushing above all for a doubling of EC aid to the poorer members.

Something is obviously amiss when European diplomats yearn for the days of Mrs Thatcher. Then, say these otherwise unimpeachable Euro-optimists, "we at least knew where we stood".

Indeed, Mrs Thatcher concentrated continental minds; it was the kind of unity displayed by a family meeting to deal with the wayward relative.

Now, almost every European state is having its awkward moments. The popular consensus on a joint European future has crumbled. Elections unhappy with their leaders' mismanagement of the economy are transferring their dissatisfaction to the European blueprint for the 1990s. The selling of Maastricht has come to seem like a conspiracy of the political class and leaders often compound the problem with their failure of nerve, their inability to persuade or explain. Where are the Schumans, the Monnetts and the Adenauers of the 1990s?

The economic malaise is at the core of the problem. Steering a country through enduring recession demands extraordinary leadership. Yet the past two years have stolen from, rather than added to, the authority of premiers and presidents. Recessions point up the inability of governments to cure long-term unemployment while the globalisation of financial markets has exposed the state's inability to control monetary flows.

The impotence is acutely felt in Germany. Liberal asylum rules, exploited by 400,000 refugees already this year, have sapped Chancellor Helmut Kohl. What kind of state is it that cannot determine who should and should not live within its frontiers? The neo-Nazi's have seized on this helplessness.

But Chancellor Kohl is not alone. All the European leaders are having trouble with their electorates. It is a mark of the fractured communication channel between leaders and led, that politicians could express such utter and apparently genuine amazement when they were given a rough ride over Maastricht ratification.

President François Mitterrand only just scraped home in his referendum, the Danish prime minister Poul Schlüter's European vote was won by the "No's". Chancellor Kohl was buffeted in the Bundestag.

The intertwining of two issues — the perceived mismanagement of the economy and the ceding of large chunks of sovereignty to Brussels — has made the current generation of leaders extremely vulnerable at home. Unemployment has topped 10 per cent in Britain, France, Spain and Italy. Industrial output figures are bleak everywhere, most disturbingly so in Germany.

The popular response has been to press governments for programmes tailored to national problems, to give protectionist policies precedence over free trade, to justify every step in terms of jobs.

Italy is exceptional in that the European Community has always been seen as a force for good, a tool to modernise the country, to haul it out of the southern poverty belt. This vision has endured and Maastricht was shoed ewed

through the Italian parliament with only token questioning.

But there is a deep disillusion with the old political class, the original architects of Italy's European policies. Even Spain's Felipe González, at 50, no longer the bright wonder-kind of the Mediterranean, is having to justify his commitment to Europe with a long list of domestically inspired demands. Along with Portugal, Greece and Ireland, Señor González is pressing hard for the Delors plan which would double regional aid over seven years.

Britain, Germany, The Netherlands and Italy support spending that would boost aid by only 60 per cent. The Edinburgh summit will thus present a spectacle of leaders desperately playing to their



John Major has been moulded by the Thatcher years and the market revolution of the 1980s

home audiences. Most European summits have an element of this but at some stage an appeal is usually made to a mysterious, faintly-pagan Spirit of the Community and electoral considerations are briefly set aside.

It is difficult to see how this particular brand of black magic will work in Edinburgh if only because the two key players — President Mitterrand and Chancellor Kohl — are in such deep trouble.

The original Franco-German partnership that was the cornerstone of the Community has been changed beyond recognition by the collapse of communism and the unification of Germany and the two leaders have come up with a timetable for a federal Europe that is out of touch with the world.

The atomisation of society is a feature of recession-politics. French farmers and German farmers made common cause against the Gatt deal, while French and German industrialists pleaded for free trade. Where, then, is the common Franco-German interest? It leaders, who have done nothing of the sort.

The weakness of these two leaders is the basic reason for the European drift. President

Mitterrand is 76 and debilitated by prostate cancer. Yet he has another two and a half years of his seven-year term to serve. He faces tough parliamentary elections in March which will certainly saddle him with a right wing premier. Rural France, *la France profonde*, remains the formidable obstacle to intelligent European reform. Mitterrand is an old fox, still capable of talking risks — the referendum on Maastricht, the lightning visit to Sarajevo — but this is mostly theatre, not the substance of leadership.

Chancellor Kohl, too, is growing tired in office. In 1989, he quickly understood how he could mark down his role in history: as the first Chancellor of a modern unified Germany, a Bismarck for the 1990s. But he made cardinal mistakes and is now paying for them. The economic costs of unification were underestimated and so, too, was the psychological and social upheaval of integrating a post-totalitarian society. He behaved as if Europe could carry on as before with a swollen, unstable Germany. There is a verse by the Russian poet Anna Akhmatova that captures his dilemma: "... the past is rotting in the future —

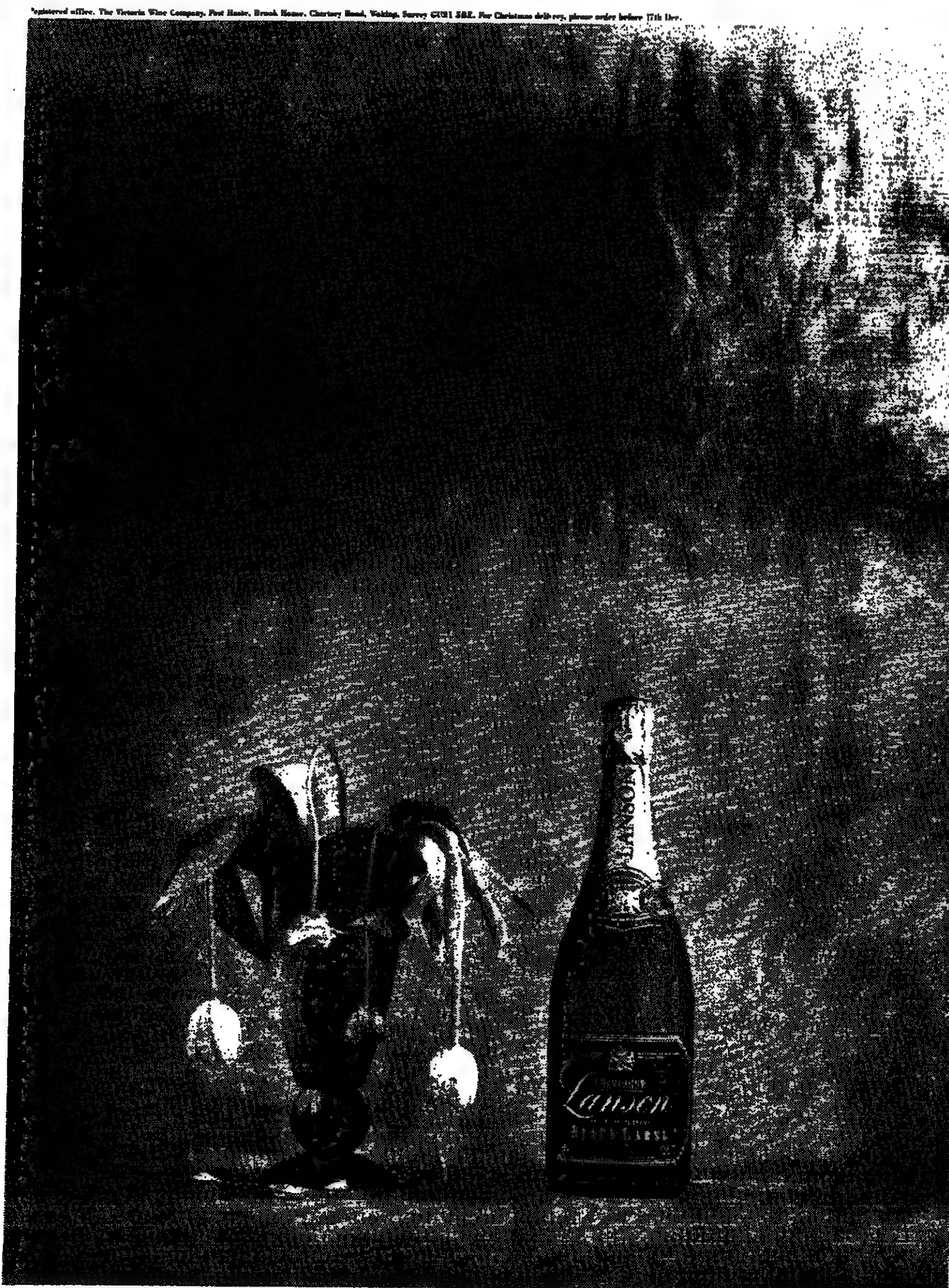
A terrible carnival of dead leaves."

That is from "A Poem without a Hero", an adequate description of the present Community as it searches in vain for heroic leadership.

The natural way out of this leadership vacuum would be to turn to the United States. That seems on the surface to be an attractive option. President-elect Bill Clinton, though he is almost the same age as John Major, is manifestly of a different generation. While Mr Major has been moulded by the Thatcher years and the market revolution of the 1980s, Mr Clinton's views are rooted in the class of '68. As more and more 40-year-olds rise to decisive positions in commerce and society, so Mr Clinton seems to be the voice for a new self-confident generation of leaders.

But it is probably misguided to seek inspiration from across the Atlantic. Mr Clinton is as much a prisoner of recession as the Europeans. On the day after his election, he said: "I am going to focus like a laser beam on the economy." Then, almost as an afterthought, he added: "and foreign policy will come into play in so far as it affects the economy."

If Mr Clinton has isolationist instincts, the European drift can only encourage him. As the American commentator William Pfaff wrote recently: "The European débacle validates every one of the perceptions of Europe which lay behind American isolationism in the 19th century, and in the 1920s and 1930s." His conclusion captures the tone of Washington-in-transition: can they (the Europeans) expect the US to save Europe from itself a third time this century? Do they not understand that this may not happen? That is a question designed to irritate a European audience. But it does have to be addressed — quickly — by the political class of Europe.



Instead of flowers, send a nice bouquet.

Post Haste is a unique and exciting alternative to saying it with flowers. It's a message in a bottle. All you have to do is pick up the phone, call freephone 0800 526464, and we'll arrange for the nearest Victoria Wine to deliver your gift, beautifully packaged and with your personal message. So next time don't send flowers, express it with a bottle. Because whatever the occasion, with Post Haste you're guaranteed to come up smelling of roses. **VICTORIA WINE**

What
for yo

T

for yo

for yo

for yo

for yo

for yo

for yo

for yo

for yo

for yo

for yo

for yo

for yo

for yo

for yo

for yo

for yo

for yo

for yo



A whiff of raw sex

DR DAVID KELLY, of the University of Wales is reported to have suggested that the recipe for success at the Christmas party is to forget the deodorants and aftershave and allow the natural smell of the armpit to work its magic on the opposite sex.

At this time of year, men secrete five times more pheromones, the chemicals which produce a sexually stimulating smell, than in the summer. Dr Kelly's views should not be taken as a licence to avoid bathing, for it would probably be worse for any would-be Don Juan to obscure the healthy smell of the pheromones with BO than with aftershave.

Whatever the season, doctors always take an interest in a patient's armpits, or the

axillae, and no examination is complete without feeling them to see if any enlarged lymph glands are present.

Finding an enlarged gland always causes some concern: breasts are searched for suspicious lumps, and arms for infections or other skin lesions. If no local cause is found, the gland is often taken out for examination by the pathologist so as to exclude generalised disease.

The American Journal of Medicine, quoting research from Mount Sinai Hospital in New York, reports that the skill of a pathologist is not always needed to make the correct diagnosis. For instance, in a study, 21 out of 25 healthy women with unexplained enlarged armpit glands regularly used a roll-on deodorant, while in a control group, only ten out of 40 women who did not have enlarged glands had used such a deodorant.

Keys to surgical tragedy

GOOD doctors are pessimists who leave nothing to chance. They should combine the philosophy of the officer cadet school — "Think of the worst that can happen, and prepare for it" — with that of the old lag in the barrack-room who is addicted to both belt and braces.

It is therefore unlikely that when tragedy results from routine surgery, as in the case of Ruth Silverman, who died after complications following a hysterectomy, no one factor can be blamed. Mrs Silverman was originally admitted for a hysterectomy via the vaginal route, but this was later changed to an abdominal hysterectomy. But after surgery, she developed gut complications. Laparoscopy — viewing the abdominal structures via a type of endoscope, an illuminated tube inserted through the abdominal wall — revealed that adhesions (scar tissue) had formed, obstructing the gut, and a decision was made to remove these by keyhole surgery.

In Mrs Silverman's case, there seems to have been a chapter of misfortunes or, as the coroner at her inquest put it, "It is a combination of missed opportunities which has led to this unfortunate lady's death."

The principal of sound surgery used to be wide exposure. The sick operator, intent on making his name as a smart society surgeon, would learn to remove an appendix through a tiny incision, arguing that after the event the scar was the only way a patient could judge the operation. The cautious surgeon, on the other hand, made a large incision, so that he could have a good look round and, if anything went wrong, there was room to manoeuvre. The end result was



MEDICAL BRIEFING
Dr Thomas Stuttford

a longer period of recuperation, but eventually the patient recovered.

Keyhole surgery is not just an extension of the concept of the pre-war operator who prided himself on small scars. It does have very real advantages. In keyhole surgery the operation is carried out through very small apertures with the operation site only viewed indirectly via endoscope, so there is no rummaging around in the guts with gloved hands.

The endoscope transmits pictures of the inside of a patient on to a television screen, so the surgeon's actions are dictated by what he sees there. By means of keyhole surgery, gall bladders, kidneys, appendixes, even uterus have been removed. The advantages are less blood loss, less damage to the abdominal wall and the patient, if all has gone well, is fit for home and ready to return to their occupation very much sooner. The smaller wounds mean that there is less chance of wound infection, with all its possible complications.

The disadvantages are obvious. Although joint surgery through an arthroscope (an endoscope for looking into a joint) and laparoscopy have been around for many years, surgeons have

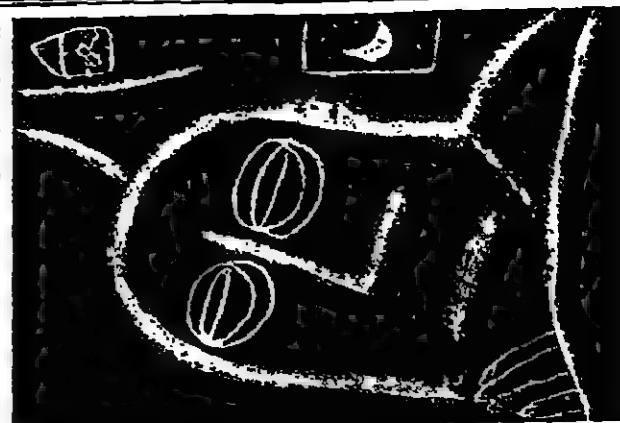
grown up with direct vision and like to run the guts through their hands so that they can say, with authority, "Well, that looks all right", and then close the patient up with confidence.

Viewing the surgical battlefield, and operating only by the indirect vision provided by a picture on a screen, is a whole new skill which has to be learnt. There is always a danger when a new technique is introduced that surgeons whose experience is necessarily limited will attempt too much.

After perforation of the gut, as happened with Mrs Silverman, the peritoneal cavity is contaminated by faecal bacteria and severe peritonitis will inevitably follow. Collapse is due to septicæmia, and the patient will thereafter need the care of a multi-disciplinary team such as is provided by an intensive care unit.

Although it is probably true that a London teaching hospital unit would epitomise excellence in this treatment, and a teaching hospital has the advantage of experts already at hand, there is no doubt that the Harley Street Clinic's intensive care unit, to which Mrs Silverman was admitted after she had collapsed at the Portland hospital, is justifiably proud of its record and just as highly regarded.

At any one time there are 15 patients in the unit, mainly those who have had cardio-thoracic surgery. There is a senior house officer in the unit, with previous experience of intensive care, as well as the resident medical officers. The patients are under the care of their consultants, who will bring expert advice to bear when needed.



Sweet to the labouring man

THE Royal Society of Medicine (RSM) launched a booklet this week on the medical management of insomnia. Insomnia affects 5 per cent of people under 30, but 35 per cent of those at the age of 65. Of those with a sleeping problem 48 per cent suffer every night.

The RSM report emphasises the social implications of sleeplessness, the accidents — including road accidents — it causes next day, the under-performance and under-achievement it produces in those who have to work although they have had a sleepless night.

Despite the extent of the problem there is no perfect sleeping pill. The longer-acting benzodiazepines, Mogadon for instance, can

cause drowsiness next day; the medium-acting benzodiazepines, such as temazepam cause little drowsiness but dependence in some people can be a problem; the use of short-acting benzodiazepines has many advantages, but there is dispute as to whether or not they can cause other side-effects. The cyclopyrrolone, Zimovane, is shorter acting and has fewer side-effects — including daytime sedation, or loss of memory in the elderly — than benzodiazepines.

Sleeping pills soon lose their effect and are virtually useless after being taken continuously for more than 10-14 days. Pills are ideal, however, for transient insomnia such as that resulting from jellal or some sudden acute stress. For other insomnias they should only be prescribed for intermittent use to give a patient a good night's sleep when it is important for the next day.

According to a new survey, acne is neither a rite of passage nor necessarily a blight to life. Alice Thomson reports

What's par for your face?

They started on her chin and spread slowly up her face and down on to her chest. At first they were just small pimples, but after a couple of months they had grown into large, painful cysts that would not heal.

Lorna Peters was 16 when she began to develop acne. She gave up chocolate, crisps and chips, and bought all the over-the-counter pots, potions and creams that she could from her local chemist, but they just seemed to exacerbate the problem. Her skin began to look as if it had been dive-bombed by thousands of monster mosquitoes, each intent on committing hara-kiri in a different pore. After a year of covering up with foundation and brushing her hair down around her face she went to the doctor.

"I thought everyone was calling me pizza face behind my back. My skin felt so unclean I just wanted to peel it all off. It was revolting. Boys lost all interest in me and I couldn't blame them," Miss Peters says. "While I was waiting for my appointment a woman came up and asked if I had measles."

Miss Peters's GP was unsympathetic. He told her that most teenagers get spots and suggested that if she kept her face clean and did not tamper with any pimples she would "grow out" of the condition in a year. Seven years later Miss Peters no longer has acne, but only after changing her GP and being referred to a consultant dermatologist.

According to the largest survey ever carried out among those afflicted by acne, most sufferers put up with a lack of sympathy from GPs, despite the psychological pain caused. Results of the survey of 1,000 sufferers, which were published last week by the Acne Support Group, suggest that 52 per cent said their doctor was unsympathetic. Only 9 per cent said their doctor was

'My skin felt so unclean I just wanted to peel it all off. A woman came up and asked if I had measles'

sympathetic or very sympathetic.

The survey found that victims appear less likely to marry, with 60 per cent of sufferers remaining single, compared with a national average of 24 per cent. Sufferers will try almost any remedy: 97 per cent consulted GPs, 89 per cent bought over-the-counter treatments and almost half had tried alternative forms of therapy costing up to £500. Of more than 40 preparations available at chemists

only zinc tablets were rated above average in the treatment of the complaint.

The odd spot is seen as one of the rites of passage into adulthood, sandwiched between nappy rash and wrinkles. Up to 60 per cent of 14- to 18-year-old girls and 16- to 19-year-old boys experience acne. But the myth that severe acne is one of those inevitable trials of life has condemned many teenagers to appalling scarring, both physical and psychological.

Well-meaning parents who tell their suffering teenage children not to worry, as their spots will all miraculously disappear on their 21st birthday, are often ill-advised.

Acne is not just a teenage disease — 39 per cent of those surveyed were aged 25 to 34, 32 per cent were over 35 and 18 per cent had had acne for more than 25 years. Some, particularly women, had developed acne in their late twenties.

Dr Tony Chu, a consultant dermatologist at Hammer-smith Hospital, London, who specialises in acne, launched the Acne Support Group this year to provide advice to sufferers and to try to increase public awareness of the disease.

Dr Chu decided to set up the support group after appearing on BBC1's *Hospital Watch* last year and persuading the programme to set up a helpline. Nearly 1,000 people called the line and Dr Chu has since received more than 12,000 letters.

"People think you get acne because you're dirty and eat the wrong things. This is rubbish," Dr Chu says. As a teenager he himself suffered from acne, so he can draw on his own early feelings and experiences.

"Severe acne can ruin your life and scar your skin so you never undress in public or swim, and are afraid to form relationships. Some of my patients have thought about committing suicide every day."

One letter to Dr Chu came from a mother whose teenage son has a face that is "a mess". He washes with an antiseptic lotion four times a day, uses a sunlamp twice daily, discards towels after one shower and pats his face dry with kitchen roll. He has a phobia about sweating, for fear of developing another blocked pore. The acne, his mother wrote, has not only taken over his life but that of his parents as well.

One of Dr Chu's female patients, he says, got acne at 25 and nearly lost her husband and her job because she refused to go out anymore.

One, according to Terence Kealey, a senior lecturer in the department of clinical biochemistry at the University of Cambridge, is a disease of the pilo-sebaceous unit. This consists of the tiny hairs that cover the body, and the oil gland that lubricates the hair and the skin.

His department has learnt how to isolate the duct and is hoping to create an acne



Spot the joke: Ade Edmonson reveals the unacceptable face of acne in *The Young Ones*

model. "There are two types of acne," Mr Kealey says. "There is mild acne, where the cells of the duct divide excessively to block the duct and cause blackheads and whiteheads."

Then there is severe acne, where the duct bursts and sebum, made of pure grease and bacteria, causes inflammatory collapse of the duct structure, and horrible pus-filled forms.

He says acne, like facial hair and body odour, can be a sign of the onset of puberty, but that does not mean it should be tolerated. Food and drinks are not a cause of acne, he says, but stress can make the condition worse.

Dr Dafydd Roberts, a consultant dermatologist at Singleton Hospital, Swansea, says that treatments for acne have improved dramatically in the past few years. Sufferers just need to come forward.

"Roaccutane — a vitamin A treatment — has revolutionary treatments and can cure most acnes. Of my patients, 75 per cent have been cured in four months," Dr Roberts says. "There are side-effects such as dry lips and eyes, and muscle pains, and patients who are pregnant shouldn't take it. But the side-effects do not last."

If you suffer continually from several spots, Dr Roberts advises over-the-counter remedies, but if these are ineffective a GP should be consulted and you should ask for a topical treatment. He warns, however, that excessive washing can actually exacerbate the situa-

tion. "Don't just be fobbed off with a two-week course of antibiotics. Antibiotics should be used at the full dose for a couple of months, then slowly withdrawn. If they still don't work, ask to see a dermatologist. They can either give you a prescription to treat the hormones, treat the infection with stronger antibiotics or use Roaccutane, which shrinks the sebaceous glands."

But how does the sufferer know when it is legitimate to go to a GP and make a fuss?

Dr Gabriel Jaffe, a GP in Bournemouth, Dorset, says: "If it is a problem socially or it is inhibiting your work, ask your GP for advice. The girl who only has a few bad spots has just as much right to consult her GP as someone with severe acne if they are causing her misery."

"When I qualified, skin was at the bottom of doctors' priorities. Slowly we're beginning to realise the huge effect it has on people's lives." According to Dr Halla Beloff, a social psychologist at Edinburgh University, acne is one of the worst disfigurements. "People always tell you to put on a brave face. But how can you when it's your face that is the problem? People hate the thought of touching blemished skin."

As well as seeking out a dermatologist, her advice to sufferers is to fight back. "Make a real effort with clothes, hair and your body and look positive."

Dr Chu believes that advertisements for skin-care products merely add salt to the wound. "The advertising for acne is unrealistic. You see people with severe acne and cysts miraculously cured in a week. Now that just doesn't happen. It also perpetuates the myth of uncleanness, because the before pictures always show the victim with a greasy fringe, dirty clothes and stooping, and the after pictures show the blemish-free person in a shiny new outfit off to some disco."

But Dr William Cunliffe, a dermatologist based at the Leeds General Infirmary, believes that over-the-counter products are the most effective remedy for the majority of teenagers with spots.

"Benzoyl Peroxide, the active ingredient in the most widely available over-the-counter products for spots and physiological acne, is the most effective therapy," he says. "It lessens bacteria and also reduces comedones [the medical name for blackheads], red spots and pus-spots."

Dr Chu's immediate concern is the health department's decision to extend the list of restricted drugs to include skin products, which would potentially limit the availability of treatment on prescription. "Topical antibiotics can cost £7 for two weeks of treatment. That is a lot of money for a kid to find," he says. But his outlook is optimistic. "Give me a young sufferer and a year and I'll give them good skin for life."

Give National Garden Gift Tokens this Christmas and you can't go wrong



National Garden Gift Tokens suit everyone.

The gift that lets them choose what they like from a huge range of plants, garden equipment, accessories and a whole lot more.

So easy to give and always a pleasure to receive.

They're attractively designed and available in a range of values from £1 to £20.

You can buy them, or spend them, at most Garden Centres, Garden Shops and Nurseries throughout the UK.



NATIONAL GARDEN
GIFT TOKENS

Call 0734 303998 for full stockist list.
Horticultural Trades Association, Theale, Berkshire.

HORMONAL
HEALTHCARE

Why let the menopause change your life?

The menopause may be a natural part of the ageing process, but for many women its side effects can have a dramatic impact on their well-being and quality of life.

The onset of middle-age in men can also be accompanied by a variety of symptoms, including a loss of interest in sex, a lack of drive in professional life and increased fatigue.

At the Hormonal Healthcare Centre, we offer help with the problems of middle-age in both men and women, and we can give you expert advice on the treatments available.

For more information, consult your GP. Alternatively, phone 071-935 5651 or return the coupon.

Please send me more information about the Hormonal Healthcare Centre.

Name _____
Address _____
Postcode _____

Please return to: The Hormonal Healthcare Centre,
101 Harley Street, London W1N 1DF

A sad day for the monarchy



JOHN GRIGG

Why did they have to do it? For some time, they have been leading virtually separate lives, and their immensely privileged circumstances have enabled them to do so with none of the difficulties that beset most married couples who are not getting on. Whereas most people live in a single dwelling, house or flat, with few rooms and restricted space, the Prince and Princess of Wales have two large residences, and easy access to other palaces or stately homes.

Most marriages go through periods of some strain, but it is the whole point of marriage that the partners, especially those who have made Christian vows, should not quit when the going is hard. The presence of children greatly reinforces the case for soldiering on, even in ordinary families with no public responsibility. For the heir to the throne and his wife, with two young sons, the arguments for maintaining the formal integrity of their marriage should have been overwhelming.

Those arguments have not, however, served to prevent the separation that has just been announced, and one has to remark upon the extraordinary timing, within a few days of the Princess Royal's wedding, and little more than a fortnight before Christmas. If the Prince and Princess of Wales, or one of them, were determined to upstage the Princess Royal, to ensure an unhappy Christmas for their children, and to give a final nasty twist to the Queen's *annus horribilis*, they could hardly have timed the announcement more cunningly. We are witnessing either an almost unprecedented display of selfishness, or a lack of understanding that baffles belief.

The Prince of Wales is, deservedly, held in high esteem for his public work, and the Princess of Wales has a following not unlike that of a film star. As individuals, they may continue, in their different ways, to play a vital part in the work of the monarchy. But their separation poses acute problems for the future.

Whatever may be contrived while the prince remains heir to the throne, it is surely unrealistic to imagine a continued separation if and when he becomes king. The spectacle of a king with a queen consort leading a detached, but still very public, life, would be an absurdity.

John Major told the House of Commons that they could be crowned together, and there were some gasps of astonishment when he said it, as well there might be. Quite apart from the essentially Christian character of the ceremony, it would surely be quite ridiculous for a king and queen to come together merely to be crowned in Westminster Abbey, before resuming their separate lives. Such an example of having their cake and eating it would be unacceptable to normal secular opinion, to say nothing of committed Anglican opinion. MPs seemed distinctly subdued when asked to demonstrate their sympathy for the prince and princess.

So long as neither of them wishes to marry another person, the separation may not lead to divorce. But it is hard to see how it could be decently maintained if the throne were to become vacant. We must hope that they will come together again before that situation arises.

There was much talk by the prime minister, John Smith, and Paddy Ashdown about the need for the couple to have more privacy. This sort of talk can be overdone, and is anyway only to a limited degree applicable to the present case. In a civilised country, everybody, including above all private people, has a right to protection against gross intrusion into their personal lives. Public figures have a right to it, too, though they have to realise that their positions necessarily make them more vulnerable to publicity. They should therefore be careful to avoid behaving in such a way as to attract it in an adverse form.

By far the most significant event in the background to yesterday's announcement was the publication of Andrew Morton's book. That was not a case of intrusion by the press, but of mind-boggling indiscretions by certain friends of the Princess of Wales. The media cannot reasonably be blamed for reporting such a story.

If there had been no announcement of separation yesterday, and weeks had turned into months without any such announcement, the couple could have expected, gradually, to enjoy more privacy. As it is, the pressure for news of them can only increase. Are they both, or both equally, desirous of privacy? One has to wonder.

Can even the best scientists really tell us anything profound about the nature of God's universe?

Incredible shrinking world

BERNARD LEVIN

I have been waiting apprehensively to hear a cry of "Run for your lives!" followed by the realisation that there is nowhere to run to. Not long ago, Professors Bondi and Lydleton announced that the earth is getting smaller, so that sooner or later we were going to fall off. They worked out that the world has been steadily shrinking since it arrived in the firmament (getting on for five billion years ago, they say, which is another poke in the belly with a burnt stick for Archbishop Usher), and the two Prof's now insist that by shedding a full millimetre a year it has shrunk to a dangerous degree, and will soon be too small to hold even the skinny people. Shakespeare had a word for it:

"The enemy lie fifteen hundred paces from our camp".

"Who hath measured the ground?"

We had much the same trouble some time ago, when Fred Hoyle was about denouncing the entire theory of the Big Bang and nailing his colours to the mast of the Steady State. I never understood how he claimed the universe came into being — presumably not with a bang but a whimper — but for that matter I still can't understand how the Big Bang did it. And nobody understands either argument, because every-

one always comes up against the immovable object: what, or who, was there before the Big Bang or the Steady State?

At this point, Professor Bondi will go black in the face, having sniffed a suggestion that God might have had a hand in it, and when Prof Bondi hears the word God he reaches for his pea-shooter. I remember the amazing scene that took place when a man in Southern Ireland forked out £50,000 to have franked on a vast number of envelopes the words "Jesus is Alive" (it was Easter time). Prof Bondi, when he heard of this harmless Christian action, flipped his lid good and proper, saying (in a letter to *The Times*) that he was "...greatly perturbed...obscene...most offensive...a sample underfoot the sensitivity of a minority...and a good deal more of the same kind."

To be sure, a man can be so barmy as to think that the Resurrection of Christ is "obscene", and still talk sense about tectonic plates and the interior of the Earth three million years ago, but I would advise anyone who is about to meet the Prof to carry a rabbit's foot and clutch it tightly if the talk turns to Jesus. (A fortiori, a cross pinned in the lapel would be something of a mistake.)

I sometimes wonder whether the scientists who work in the fields of millions of years ago shouldn't give it up and try basket-weaving instead. For a start, though it is not the most important aspect, any statement as to what the Earth looked like before Bernard Manning's jokes will immediately be contradicted by a rival scientist with a different theory. (There are more solutions to the mystery of the disappearing dinosaurs than there were dinosaurs.) But so much of the serious investigations are, though the investigations will deny it vehemently, no more than guesswork. Just snap for a moment and say to yourself: "I see that was what happened a hundred million years ago", say it three times, and I bet you start laughing. (If you make it a thousand million years, you will start laughing on the second go.)

You will be right to laugh, because nobody could possibly know anything at all substantial about what the Earth, let alone the universe, looked like then. If the claims of the scientists were couched in less certain tones, it would be a help, but not much of one; we would still know nothing of significance.

Once I read a science-fiction story about some present-day scientists who had made a time machine, and were offering trips to the Mesozoic, where they could shoot dinosaurs as big-game hunters shoot big game. But they were warned not to kill or even move anything other than the designated beast, which was always one about to die anyway; the point was that if anything at all was changed, it would — as the millions of years expanded from the "seed" of the action — not necessarily for the better. (In the story, the present-day, to which they had returned, turned out to be very horrid indeed.)

Yes, yes, we can learn something from the strata of rocks, and the radioactivity of the earth, and indeed from the dinosaurs' fossils. But do we

know — can we know — where the dinosaurs came from? Of course not; but then, we do not know where the rocks we use to measure by came from, either.

However vain the desire to know the how and when of the making of the Earth, let alone the why, I can easily see what drives scientists, and indeed many laymen, to pursue such clues as they find or think they find which will explain this inexplicable world of ours. We are, after all, in the universe for good or ill, and we need only look up at the night sky to be struck dumb by the mystery of it. And when daylight comes, though the catch in the breath that we feel at night fades with the sun, more prosaic questions arise. What do these rocks tell us? What does this radioactivity explain? When did the mountains heave themselves up from the shifting earth?

We are wasting our time, and for proof of that pessimistic conclusion all we need to do is to contemplate the cave-paintings of Lascaux. Fifteen thousand years ago, art existed, among people whom we would not recognise as fully human. If you will explain that I will under-

take to explain the rocks and their radioactivity.

Let me return to what started all this: the claim by Professor Lydleton and Professor ("Down with God") Bondi that the Earth has been shrinking by a millimetre a year for five billion years. Do they not — and let me say at once that their opponents are every bit as silly in their way — make fools of themselves? Or is it that they make fools of science?

I think of the Greek geometers and of Galileo (*"Eppur si muove"*), with practically nothing in the way of equipment, in the way of discovering the world and its ways. What is the difference, you ask? Proust, I answer: Proust's Theorem can be thugorass's Theorem upon a proved. (Dammit, once upon a time I could prove it myself.) Those of our own-day scientists who stir the embers of fires that went out millions of years ago may believe, but can never know. It would be better for all of us if they said as much.

And now they say that when enough millimetres have disappeared from the Earth's circumference we shall fall off. I believe it as much as I believe the old theatrical story of the play-actor who plucks a hopeful's drama from his in-tray and reads on the first page: "Act One: A million years before the first life appears on Earth. Act Two: Half an hour later."

The networks have landed

Ben Macintyre, in New York, on America's prime-time invasion



The invasion of Somalia is underway. Marching into Mogadishu, bawling orders, knocking things down, frightening the locals and buying up people, goods and services, they have finally arrived: the American television networks.

The sociologist Marshall McLuhan pointed out that "television brought the brutality of the Vietnam war into the comfort of the living room", and the arc lights and anchormen have played a pivotal role in every major conflict since. But Operation Restore Hope is quite different. Television is not part of the process. It is the entire process: the decision to send troops in Somalia was born out of the emotive footage of starving people and armed bandits, and the grand humanitarian gesture thus launched will be played out for and in front of the cameras.

"C'est magnifique, mais ce n'est pas la guerre," whatever the Pentagon may try to suggest. Operation Restore Hope is in part a public relations exercise, co-ordinated between the government, the military and the networks. A full 24-hours before the first troops came ashore in Mogadishu, officials had announced the precise location and timing of the landing — dawn in Somalia, evening prime time in America. The Pentagon had stated that there was no danger of mines, but still three teams of US Navy Seals in camouflage make-up "stormed" onto the beach to clear the way. The Somali "enemy" had long since vanished and in military terms the dramatic landing was perfectly unnecessary, as television it was twisting and as military PR it was a disaster.

The hundred or so waiting cameramen, photographers and journalists quickly surrounded the soldiers to their evident discomfort. It is hard to look brave and battle-ready when you arrive to discover that hundreds of civilians have been wandering around the "combat zone" for days.

"Welcome to Somalia," said a friendly journalist.

"Hands up," came the furious reply.

The Pentagon immediately tried to insist that the blinding camera lights be switched off, so that the Seals could wear their

night-vision goggles to see the Somali warlords who weren't there. Later, grumpy Marines tried to get their own back by forcing about 60 journalists to lie face down on the dock at Mogadishu port, but the damage had already been done.

The US Defense Department, however, made little effort to disguise the fact that the dawn landing had been set up in much the same way as a sporting event.

The television commentators yesterday were plunged into a semantic muddle: many found the habits of Desert Storm hard to break and called the exercise an invasion, others opted for the more neutral "landing". None called it what it was, a piece of charity showbusiness that only America could have produced.

Whatever the Pentagon's protestations, the operation is effectively under the control of American television. Perhaps one day military manoeuvres will be handed over completely to the electronic media: "Sorry, Stormin' Norman honey, can you invade again? The sound level wasn't right."

A former foreign editor of this newspaper, Ralph Deskin, once remarked that "Nothing is news until it has appeared in *The Times*". In America nothing is news now until the network anchormen are there on the scene, philosophising in flak-jackets. Before the anchormen arrived in Mogadishu, Americans showed a marked lack of interest in Somalia, a story plugged away at by the worrier newspapers but largely ignored elsewhere; that has now changed, for in America there is

nothing either good or bad, but television makes it so.

The relationship between America's newscasters and the viewing public is bizarre and unique. Part oracles, part ambassadors, such luminaries as ABC's Ted Koppel, NBC's Tom Brokaw and CBS's Dan Rather do not report the news, they are the news. Well before the Marines went in, the *New York Times* ran a headline announcing: "Now, From Somalia, Three Star Newscasters".

With obvious delight those newscasters found themselves in the strange position of reporting on themselves, as news. "The most difficulty the Marines had to face all day," said Ted Koppel, host of ABC's *Nightline*, "is having to face the cameras and the lights." This inelegant remark was not an

apology, more a boast. Indeed, the celebrity of American newscasters has reached the stage where they come close to eclipsing the story itself. The personal appeal by a television newscaster is a powerful tool, as Michael Buerk of the BBC proved with his first moving reports out of famine-struck Ethiopia. But in America such "I smelled the cordite" reporting is a stock-in-trade, every report is a personal one, and often it is almost impossible to find the news behind the chummy talking heads.

The evolution of America's television war-reporters from journalists into stars probably started in Vietnam, and has reached its ultimate expression in Somalia. That is partly the fault of the networks themselves, a result of the never-ending

television ratings war that elevates personality over substance, but it is also a function of the way the US government has chosen to portray Operation Restore Hope.

Of all the areas of the world rent by civil war and famine, America chose to help Somalia for two reasons: the situation is far less dangerous than, say, the Sudan, Mozambique or Bosnia and it makes better television. The outgoing Bush administration needed to make a gesture, for the starving people of Somalia certainly, but also to restore hope in America and the Republican Party.

As one media critic said yesterday: "The bottom line is that the heart of every 10-year-old in the country has to beat a little faster when they see the Seals storming ashore." And for that, the cameras are vital.

But the landing in Mogadishu was rendered farcical because the seams showed too clearly, the cameras were too visible, the scene too obviously staged and the danger virtually non-existent. The soldiers who came ashore were intended to represent America at its most resourceful, daring and generous. They ended up looking silly, because the other half of the equation — the people charged with relaying that image to America and the world — got in the way.

Defense Secretary Dick Cheney was angry yesterday that the soldiers had, he said, been exposed to danger by the lights of the cameras; but what had really been exposed was the convenient and unspoken pact established between the American government and the media.

What is now taking place in Somalia is not a war. It is not even, primarily, a peace-keeping operation, but something far more mundane and important: a logistical exercise in moving huge quantities of food. By trying to pretend otherwise, the American government has exposed a credible, life-saving enterprise to ridicule, and shot itself in the foot. After the embarrassment of yesterday's dawn landing, a Pentagon spokesman observed: "We probably should have inserted the public affairs officer first." He was not joking.

A step from the throne

BEFORE JOHN MAJOR made his historic statement on the royal marriage to a packed House of Commons yesterday he delved into the history books to see how his predecessor Stanley Baldwin handled the last great parliamentary statement on the royal family: the abdication of King Edward VIII which took place 56 years ago today.

Major's aides pored through Hansard to find the exact words used by Stanley Baldwin on December 10, 1936. But the prime minister could have turned to Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the former Lord Chancellor, who, as the son of an hereditary peer, sat on the steps of the throne in the House of Lords on the day.

Hailsham has never forgotten the fateful moment when the Leader of the Lords, Viscount Halifax, declared that King Edward VIII had decided to abdicate. "To think I was only a few feet away from the king's throne," he says. "It was a cold, serious and very miserable day. It was a remarkable experience. The statement was heard in total silence. The least said the soonest mended."

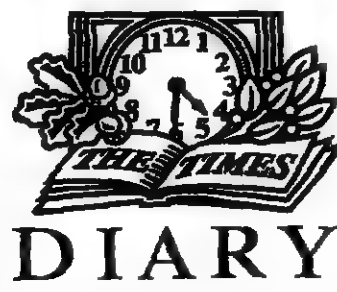
Hailsham, one of the country's leading constitutional experts, believes that yesterday's announcement is as grave as that made in 1936: "It is a sad day for the monarchy and the country."

An ardent monarchist, he was appalled at the dissenting voices raised in the Commons after the prime minister's statement. "In 1936 parliamentarians in both houses displayed real decorum. Real manners. There were no questions. We just absorbed the grave news."

In 1936 Hailsham had heard a whisper that something was amiss with the king. There were rumours of an American divorcee among those in the know. "We knew very little about Mrs Simpson. The press did not know much more. It was reported very little. The announcement caused real surprise, grief and shock to many who heard it. Today it seems the press is always first to hear. They have more enterprising ways these days, to say the least."

Prize turnout

IF Rosemary Lamont is not already running her husband's haphazard



personal finances, she should be. At her much publicised coffee

rooming in 11 Downing Street last week she doubled her original estimate of raising £5,000 to help boost Tory party funds, according to one who attended.

About 150 people turned up, including Ann Parkinson, wife of Lord Parkinson, and Gillian Clarke, wife of the home secretary. All headed the invitation to bring at least three gifts, worth £5 each, for the Tory Winter Ball tombola.

Jeroboams of champagne, bottles of wine, tasteful prints, biographies of John Major, art books, biscuits, chocolates and copies of the party's book of general election anecdotes, signed by its compiler, Sir John Cope, the treasury minister were left by the guests in a downstairs reception room before they moved upstairs for coffee. San-

dra Howard, a fellow organiser and wife of the environment secretary, was coy about the total raised. "We had a lovely turnout and we got some lovely prizes which will help to raise money. But I couldn't possibly say how much."

Forward thinking

ROYAL biographers hoping for a quiet Christmas were besieged by their editors and agents yesterday as the latest round of royal books were commissioned. Anthony Holden, the Prince of Wales's biographer, who has been commissioned by Bantam to write a definitive book on the state of the royal family, is to speed up the process. But he had already taken the precaution of preparing a section predicting the end of the Wales's marriage.

When Holden wrote the respected biography *Charles, Prince of Wales*, in 1979, he was convinced the subject of his book would one day be king. He has changed his mind. "It is a lot more difficult now. It will take an enormous amount for him to achieve that, even though his whole life has been devoted to becoming king. It is conceivable that Prince Charles has already reached that conclusion, and that there will be a regency or his son will inherit."



Brushes with royalty

Despite her woes, the Queen has found the time to sympathise with one of her subjects. John Anthony, the Scottish painter, centre, whose plight was revealed in the diary last month, has just received a letter from Her Majesty via Sir Kenneth Scott, deputy private secretary to the Queen.

Anthony who has painted each member of the royal family, including the two above, and claims to be the only artist to have done so, is being forced by the recession to break up the collection. "I was most interested to read about your collection of paintings and sympathise with you over the necessity to sell," the Queen writes. "I hope that your wish to keep them in this country is granted." Anthony's letter from the Queen was dated December 3, only a few days after the Windsor fire which destroyed one of her own paintings. Whether the Queen will replace her lost art with Anthony's work remains to be seen.

EC delegates arriving in Edinburgh for the summit will doubtless enjoy the welcome they receive from the Scotch Whisky Association, which is providing each of them with half a dozen miniature Scotch whiskeys to keep out the Edinburgh chill. Campbell Evans, of the association, says: "Our director general Bill Bewsher will be presenting the packs to John Major in person today."

But the dram, known in pubs throughout Scotland as a "nippy sweetie", may leave a sour taste. The message on the bottles comes from Robbie Burns: "Freedom and whisky gang the gither", a timely reminder from the association that the national tipple is not yet free from discriminatory taxation.

"Here's a bottle and an honest friend" (R. Burns)





A SEPARATION

Frankness and modesty make the best friends at court

Royal marriages attract hyperbole as fiercely as mortal illnesses attract euphemism. Whether the news is for good or ill, exaggeration is regularly the victor. Yesterday in the House of Commons there was an almost palpable gloom when the Prime Minister announced the royal separation. Serious Members of Parliament described Mr Major's short speech as the saddest announcement from the despatch box for two decades. The mood would have suited a royal death. It seemed somewhat excessive for a civilised decision by two adults to live apart.

There are many people in Britain who, however unconsciously, measure their own lives by the royal family's landmarks. One MP remarked yesterday how he had been born on the same day as Prince Charles and had always followed his life with closeness and care. Few are wholly free from that sense of shared experience. In February, 11 years ago we headed this column with the words "The Happiest of News". Five months later we exulted that "Even the Sun Shone" as the Prince and Princess of Wales, their brief period of betrothal complete, were married at St Paul's Cathedral. Today we sympathise with the personal circumstances that have brought two people to decide that their roles as man and wife can be acted out no longer.

Yesterday's announcement should not, however, be a matter for public misery. The separation is in many ways a relief. The truth did not break on "a stunned and sorrowing people", the words which we used to describe the news of King Edward VIII's abdication. There is little place to be stunned, in a country where one marriage in three ends in divorce. In the 1990s, as in every other decade, the upholding of the monarchy requires many necessary and wholesome fictions: but a fictional royal marriage is now not one of them.

The press was much criticised in the House of Commons yesterday. Whatever the role of the media in making the royal relationship more difficult (a matter which is unlikely to be adjudicated fairly in the current climate) the insistent press scrutiny must certainly have made it harder to live the lie of a successful marriage. It is a benefit that so painful a necessity has now ceased.

The immediate public issues are few. For the press a period of restraint has been demanded. It is unlikely that the reporting of the Prince and Princess will slacken, however desirable that might be. The privacy of the two young princes ought, however, to be respected. It is rash to predict that the public would ever punish a newspaper which harassed young boys whose parents had decided to part. But, whether from compassion or self-interest, the press should heed the call.

As the prime minister made clear, there is today no constitutional crisis. There is barely as yet even a constitutional issue. The succession to the throne is unaffected. The succession as Head of the Church of England is unaffected. The change in the Prince's circumstances should allow a reopening of the question about whether his talents deserve a more substantial role.

The position of the Princess of Wales may yet bring greater problems. She might now usefully consider a quieter role for a time. Although there are no constitutional reasons why she should not become Queen one day, there may now be severe practical difficulties. A reigning Queen who was separated from her husband could not carry out all her public duties, still less act as a unifying symbol.

That is a matter for the future, for the very distant future we hope. The Queen can command the sympathy and respect of the whole nation as her *annus horribilis* ends.

GAIDAR AGONISTES

The real battle is about who runs Russia, and for whose benefit

The past has voted against the future in Russia. The Congress of People's Deputies, more than half of whom owe their seats to their loyalty to the communist system, narrowly failed last weekend to deprive President Yeltsin of his power to form a government. Yesterday, they struck back by throwing out Mr Yeltsin's candidate for prime minister, Yegor Gaidar, who has held the job for a year in an acting capacity.

This vote was critical because the confrontation between Boris Yeltsin and his opponents is not over Mr Gaidar as an individual, or even over his policies. The struggle, which has more than a whiff of old Kremlin politics about it, is over who governs Russia, and for whose benefit. Although some of their number insist that increased state intervention is compatible with market reform, most of those who voted against Mr Gaidar want to protect the vast state industrial machine from market forces through a modified, "state capitalist", version of the command economy. That would leave the levers of power inherited from communism largely intact.

Mr Yeltsin may decide to retain Mr Gaidar in his acting capacity until the next session of the congress in April, as he is entitled to do. But the president's personal authority, while still considerable, has been weakened by this rebuff, which is what his opponents intended. He is partly to blame for this setback. Conscious that public support for economic reform was wavering, he sought to deflect criticism from himself earlier this autumn by withdrawing his protection from Mr Gaidar and his team.

Mr Yeltsin appears to have regretted his flirtation with conservative forces. This week, he described a vote for Mr Gaidar as a guarantee to the outside world "that Russia is moving along the path of reform". He

may yet trim on economic strategy. But his attempted bribe to the congress, offering it a veto over the choice of key ministers, did not save Mr Gaidar and leaves Russia even less governable than before.

Neither the congress nor the Russian parliament, elected in 1990, should be assumed to represent ordinary Russians, although anxiety about de-industrialisation is widespread. Most deputies owe their careers to the command economy. Despite the emergency powers Mr Yeltsin won from parliament in 1991, both bodies have considerable power to obstruct government policies, making adjustment more difficult and painful. Yet no group in either has a workable strategy for managing the changes sweeping the real Russia. The Civic Union coalition of industrialists, nationalists and military men joined forces with diehard communists this week, instead of welcoming Mr Yeltsin's invitation to forge the basis of a "civilised, two-party system".

Mr Yeltsin may well respond by gathering the million signatures needed for a referendum on abolishing the congress. What Russia needs is a clear separation of powers between executive and legislature, absent under the existing constitution. The vote underlines Russia's urgent need for political as well as economic reforms.

Mr Yeltsin still has the backing of most Russians, who have proved remarkably philosophical about the pain involved in learning to work with markets. They trust no instant panaceas, and they know that economic decline began well before reforms were undertaken. What they curse is chaos at the top, the chief enemy of reform. In constant disputes over where power resides, the vested interests created under the old system wield disproportionate influence. They have had a field day this week.

TOO BAD TO BE TRUE

The economic darkness is lightening: believe it

Anyone who follows fashion will know that black was the colour of last year's collections. But in Britain's corporate boardrooms, as well as in the print and television newsrooms, black is all the rage this autumn.

The fashion for economic pessimism was understandable enough before sterling broke out of the ERM chain gang on the day of economic liberation that was characteristically dubbed Black Wednesday. Interest rates, though not yet low enough, have fallen towards a reasonable level. British goods are again competitively priced in world markets. The stockmarket is scaling new records. And the prime minister has personally promised to do whatever is necessary to restore economic growth. Yet anyone who judged the state of the nation by political soundbites and media headlines would conclude that Britain was hurtling faster than ever into a recessionary black hole.

Last week's scare stories were about job losses, or more precisely job massacres. In reality, the redundancies likely to result in the coming months from the job cuts recently announced by the Post Office, banks and many other employers will be but a small fraction of the blood-curdling small figures. As *The Times* showed on Monday, employers often overemphasise the savagery of their planned job reductions, in order to impress shareholders and take advantage of an accountability loophole that is due to close next June. With the flow of

redundancy announcements now drying up ahead of Christmas, the doomsday are having to turn to another fountain of economic poison. "Ford prices rocket 10 per cent" screamed the tabloids yesterday. The outrage was, of course, encouraged by Labour, which immediately called on the government "to act" in unspecified ways against Ford.

More companies will revise price lists in the New Year, leading to more inflationary horrors. Yet, like the redundancy announcements, the stories of rising prices are not quite what they seem. In Ford's case only a handful of supercharged models will rise by as much as 10 per cent. The great majority of the company's British-built small cars will go up only 4.5 per cent, while the bigger Sierras and Granadas, made in Germany and Belgium will go up by 7.5 per cent.

As Ford pointed out on Tuesday, the sterling cost of its foreign-made models has risen considerably more than 7.5 per cent as a result of devaluation. But this is not the issue. Whether Ford or any other company is "justified" in raising its prices is a question for the market. If Ford becomes too expensive, people will buy other cars.

Why, then, do the media and the politicians make such a fuss? In the words of the old Fleet Street adage, bad news sells. But at a time when there is genuinely bad news in abundance, misinformation hardly seems required.

Case for further intervention by West in Bosnia's war

From Mr John G. Kennedy

Sir, Your leading article (December 5) and subsequent correspondence (December 8) have displayed dangerous ignorance in assessing the conditions for further Western involvement in the current Bosnian civil war.

Here we have no foreign army, but three indigenous peoples fighting amongst themselves town by town and in some cases street by street. The current role of Serbia and the rump Yugoslavia cannot warrant the term aggressor, which is used to describe an attack by one state on another.

Serbia is not attacking Bosnia-Herzegovina. The Foreign Office minister, Douglas Hogg, said in a written answer (Hansard, col 554, October 27) that there was no firm evidence on whether the Serbian regime was supplying the Serbs in Bosnia-Herzegovina. No intelligence report, it seems, exists to point to arms, troops, munitions or other military assistance crossing the border from Serbia to Bosnia-Herzegovina. Thus any plan to attack Serbia itself would be impossible to justify and would almost certainly be rejected. In my view, by Russia and China in the Security Council.

To give weapons to any of Bosnia's three communities would massively escalate the conflict. The idea seems at odds with a consensus that one of Bosnia's ethnic entities should not be encouraged to crush another.

The fighting in Bosnia has gone beyond the point where the use of outside force would have any effect. This is not ultimately a war of territorial ambition: we are witnessing a bitter inter-ethnic conflict within a population whose majority now seem intent on stifling the new sovereign state of which they are all a legitimate part. No army in the world could enter such a tangle safely.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN KENNEDY,
9 Cork Street, Mayfair, W1.
December 8.

From Dr Drago Stambuk

Sir, Your otherwise excellent leading article on the situation in Bosnia is misleading in one important respect. You say that "the UN should be there to stop the fighting and push the Serbs (and Croats) back from Bosnian territory taken by force" (emphasis added).

Croatia has never claimed, let alone seized, Bosnian territory. Indeed, Croatia was among the first states to recognise the sovereignty of Bosnia-Herzegovina within its existing legal frontiers. Were it not for the resistance of ethnic Croats within Bosnia-Herzegovina against Serb aggression the Bosnian Muslims would have been defeated already and the murder would be still more widespread. Impoverished Croatia is now bear-

ing the strain of caring for hundreds of thousands of refugees from Serb "ethnic cleansing". These Bosnian refugees have fled to Croatia because they know, if others do not, that we are their friends and the Serbs their enemies.

May I remind your readers that Croatia territory is regularly under attack from Serb forces, that a third of the country is under effective Serb control, that ethnic cleansing of those areas notional under UN supervision continues and that, in spite of all this, Croatia is still subject to an arms embargo which leaves overwhelming military superiority in the hands of the Yugoslav national army, which is in effect the Serbian army.

Even-handedness between good and evil has distorted the West's response throughout this tragedy. Your own powerful analysis should not now be flawed by it.

Yours etc.,
D. STAMBUK,
Abbeville, 4 Abbeville Road, SW4.
December 7.

From Professor D. Cameron Watt

Sir, Your leading article failed to give sufficient weight to the arguments against military intervention in Bosnia.

Non-intervention requires active and public pressure on Serbia's landward neighbours and a UN prohibition on all new arms sales to Serbia, backed by UN observers in Greece, Romania and Hungary.

Intervention requires serious discussions of the funding, logistics, and how to cope with the transfer of populations that is already in progress. It requires definition of the positive ends towards which intervention is aimed. It requires some proposals as to how to cope with the possible, if not inevitable, fragmentation of the Bosnian Serbs into bands of irregulars living off the hillside villages as the Greek communists did from 1946 to 1949 or so. And it requires serious consideration of the time-scale on which intervention is planned, and of the command structure under which military occupation is to be conducted.

If these arguments are not tackled, both cases fall to the ground. Emotion and anger are bad counsellors and national pride is a worse one.

Yours faithfully,
D. CAMERON WATT,
The London School of Economics and Political Science,
Department of International History,
Houghton Street, WC2.
December 7.

From Dr Hugh Saxton

Sir, Missiles can now be targeted with extreme precision. It would be possible for the UN to warn Serbia that

unless she withdraws support for those attacking the Muslims of Bosnia, her bridges, military airfields, rail marshalling yards, arterial roads, ammunition dumps, barracks, ports and oil refineries will be destroyed. Targets could be chosen for their economic impact and, given adequate notice, all personnel could be evacuated.

There is, of course, a risk of a "human shield" response but it would be hard to apply this to every kilometre of road or rail or runway. Such measures would be costly, but not in human lives, and it is hard to believe that they would not be more effective than sanctions are proving.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH SAKTON,
50 Norlands Crescent,
Chislehurst, Kent.
December 8.

From Mr Milan Krnetka

Sir, Unlike Mr Drake (letter, December 8), I do not believe that the various republics of the former Yugoslavia are really so diverse in their histories, religions, cultures and languages. In any event, if because of their differences, these people cannot live together, and if this justifies the break-up of Yugoslavia, then the same must be true of the republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina. If Muslims and Croats cannot live with Serbs, then the Serbs of Bosnia and Croatia must be allowed to unite with the Serbs of Serbia and Montenegro.

Yours faithfully,
MILAN KRNETKA,
157 Grange Road,
Leichworth, Hertfordshire.
December 8.

US in Somalia

From Ms Jan Morris

Sir, Mixed motives govern every great historical enterprise, but Simon Jenkins is wrong (article, December 5) in suggesting that Rudyard Kipling, in *The White Man's Burden*, was just warning the Americans against the "perils of empire". On the contrary, he was urging them to share in the sacrifice of what he considered a noble purpose — "to seek another's profit. And work another's gain".

If Mr Jenkins cannot accept Kipling's imperial ethos as a guide to the moral use of power, perhaps he would accept Burke's principle that a great nation should be sympathetic with the adversity or with the happiness of mankind, feeling that nothing in human affairs was foreign to it.

Yours faithfully,
JAN MORRIS,
Trefan Morys,
Llanysumdwy, Gwynedd.
December 5.

Double role

From Mrs Barbara Roche, MP for Hornsey and Wood Green (Labour)

Sir, Your report of December 8, "Clarke defends tangle of files for Clinton records", details the home secretary's appearance before the home affairs select committee and his responses to our questions about why his department had checked their files during the US presidential election campaign to ascertain whether Bill Clinton had applied for British citizenship during the Vietnam war.

While the home secretary told us that his press office had been "overhelpful", he gave no explanation as to why the search had been allowed, and why, if press officers had over-reached themselves without ministerial authorisation, no disciplinary action was being taken.

As David Winnick said in the House of Commons yesterday, unless some separation is made between the daily workings of departments of state and purely party matters, departments become no more than extensions of Conservative Central Office. As in the matter of the payment of the Chancellor's legal bills, civil servants are increasingly being used as party workers.

Sherman Funk, the US state department's inspector general, found recently that his staff had been "used improperly in an attempt to influence the outcome of a presidential election". It seems to me that Kenneth Clarke should come clean and admit the same.

Yours sincerely,
BARBARA ROCHE,
House of Commons.
December 8.

Bombing cover

From Mrs Jennifer Ashworth

Sir, Property insurance cover for the IRA bombings in Britain (report, December 5) could be provided in a similar manner as earthquake damage is in New Zealand. There, insurance companies levy a charge on all property insurance, which is passed to the earthquake and war damages commission. This government department is responsible for settling claims due to earthquake damage.

Yours faithfully,
JENNIFER ASHWORTH,
Upper Salford House,
Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

Mark of authority

From Mr Christopher Morcom, QC

Sir, As we near the end of the current UK presidency of the European Community, I wish to draw attention to the fact that there is still no Community institution located in Britain. After almost 21 years of membership, and considering that Britain is a major contributor to the Community budget, this is a deplorable situation.

I understand that among the matters to be discussed at the forthcoming Edinburgh summit are the locations of three Community institutions: the central bank, the Environment Office and the Community Trade Mark Office. The last mentioned of these has been under consideration for at least 12 years. The office will operate a trade mark

Ireland's example

From the Chairman of the Electoral Reform Society

Sir, Calling the current Irish political scene in aid of the anti-proportional representation case requires even more myopia than usual (features, December 2, 3). Have your correspondents conveniently forgotten the interminable recounts for the Peterborough constituency in 1964 and the long drawn-out haggling that went on before Mr Heath relinquished power in February 1974? Or of a Conservative government able to pass the poll tax through the artificially loaded House of Commons but not through the country?

The fact is that the Irish election system combines the best points of party proportionality with MP accountability. The party leaders are able to discuss coalition partners amongst their three large and two smaller parliamentary groups in the light of the voters' expressed preferences on their ballot papers.

No such consideration is possible in Britain, where the parties are internal coalitions spread over an unhealthy broad span of views. Here the voter is presented with a party list of one only, take it or leave it, with the tail wagging the dog — as the Conservative rebels demonstrated in the recent Maastricht debate vote.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL MEADOWCROFT,
Chairman, Electoral Reform Society,
6 Chancel Street, Blackfries, SE1.
December 3.

system covering the whole Community, something which is regarded as essential for industry in the single European market. The establishment of such a system is still being delayed primarily by a failure to reach a decision on the location of the office.

From the outset, the government has proposed London as a suitable site for the Community Trade Mark Office. London has a unique professional infrastructure providing an unrivalled range of services to industry, so the case for London as the centre for the protection of trade marks is overwhelming. It is to be hoped that one positive outcome from Edinburgh will be an agreement that this vital organisation should be based in London.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER MORCOM,
1 Essex Court, Temple, EC4.
December 4.

From Councillor Michael Storey

Sir, Under a first-past-the-post system, our own general election in April was settled by a small number of votes — perhaps as few as 20,000 in around 25 of the UK's 651 constituencies. Since then, we have witnessed the spectacle of a government, with a minority of the votes, exercising total power incompetently whilst straying freely from its manifesto intentions.

Important decisions are negotiated behind closed doors in Carlton Club rooms and many successful MPs have left their "safe" constituencies far behind them to pursue professional political careers in Westminster.

In contrast, with the benefit of a single transferable vote system, the people of the Irish Republic know that each and every one of their votes has counted fully. They have been able to express their political preferences in detail, often preferring candidates from differing parties to reward or punish local records of service or dedication.

Negotiations will now take place between parties, rather than factions of parties. Each party will have to justify to supporters, issue by issue, its compromises or failures to compromise. And each successful candidate will have noted the success of those who had strong local records of action and will be anxious to strengthen ties with their own constituency by service and dedication to its people and community.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL STOREY,
(Leader, Liberal Democrats),
Liverpool City Council,
Municipal Offices,
Dale Street, Liverpool 1.
December 3.

Finances biased against the gallery

From Sir Denis Mahon, FBA

Sir, In welcoming the fully justified protest of the chairman of the National Art-Collections Fund at the abrupt cessation of the grants earmarked for purchases at the national museums (letter, December 2), I should like to refer especially to the National Gallery.

The Treasury has long made a practice of claiming that it is conferring "freedom" while proffering a poisoned chalice. In the present case it is in reality giving itself freedom to avoid a financial responsibility for which it has always accepted commitment in the past: that of providing the trustees with a specified grant to be devoted to what has always been recognised as their paramount duty, that of promoting the development of the collection.

But the disappearance of this grant in a global figure, covering also running costs (including staffing) and building maintenance, has the intended effect of making it as difficult as possible to have a view on the adequacy of the financing of purchases.

If the trustees of the National Gallery, who must be presumed not to have been consulted, are unable to obtain a reversal of this provision, it is to be hoped that they will keep the public fully informed as to the gallery's financial situation and their appointment of funds so that admirers of its achievements may take up the cudgels on its behalf.

It is ironic that, at a time when the National Gallery is responding so well to increasing the public interest and when private generosity to it has reached unprecedented heights (one thinks of the Sainsbury Wing and the Getty Fund), the Treasury — as usual lacking a sense of proportion — prevails over the Department of National Heritage to put into effect its small-minded scheme to the gallery's advantage, worked out with misplaced ingenuity. Hardly the way to generate support.

Yours faithfully,
DENIS MAHON,
33 Cadogan Square, SW1.
December 3.

At our service

From Mr David Kiggell

Sir, Your leading article, "A fairer deal" (November 27), asks what there would be left to vote about in council elections if all local government expenditure were centrally funded. The answer is "service". Central government already provides over 80 per cent of council income. Let it provide 100 per cent, and let councillors compete to provide the most for this money. I shall vote for the local politician who will give the community the best service.

Yours truly,
DAVID KIGGELL,
Straight Ash,
Ashurststead Common,
Pangbourne, Berkshire.

UN for minorities

From Sir John Thomson, Chairman, Minority Rights Group

Sir, Your leader, "Rights of minorities" (December 4), is subtitled: "Group rights must not diminish individual human rights." This point is explicitly recognised in the new United Nations declaration, which was passed unanimously by a UN committee on December 4 and is due to go to the General Assembly on December 14. Minority rights are akin to human rights but are not the same thing.

Communities, majorities as well as minorities, have political importance. Among the merits of the declaration, and a reason why the Minority Rights Group has promoted it, is its acknowledgment that people can exercise rights through communities and that the state has an obligation in this respect. Realistic statesmanship recognises the need for communities to live together within the law rather than for each to seek its own salvation, usually at the expense of the rights of others. The universal acceptance of limited community rights facilitates this goal and deserves support.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN THOMSON,
Chairman, Minority Rights Group,
379 Brixton Road, SW9.

Where on earth?

From Mr Colin Hill

Sir, Mrs Fulford Brown, who objects to your publishing a map to show your readers the whereabouts of Manchester (letter, December 8), should recall that *The Times* is sold abroad. Not everyone in Spain, for instance, may know where Manchester is (although all my friends in Las Rozas do, because they follow football); and not so long ago, at a drinks party in Lancashire, I was asked by a lady (from the North) what the beach was like in Madrid.

Take heart from a bit of help, Madam. That map may be just a reflection on the way geography is taught in England.

Yours from very much further south,
COLIN HILL,
Calle Concha Espina,
Las Rozas, 28230, Madrid.
December 9.

NEWS

Royals separate

The Prince and Princess of Wales are to separate after 11 years of marriage, it was announced yesterday, completing the Queen's *annus horribilis* and casting a shadow over the Princess Royal's impending wedding.

The announcement, whose only major surprise was in its timing, was made simultaneously by Buckingham Palace and by John Major in the Commons. Neither party intends to divorce. Pages 1-5

Invitation accepted

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother will attend the wedding of her granddaughter the Princess Royal to Commander Timothy Laurence in Scotland on Saturday. Clarence House confirmed last night. Her hesitation at making the journey in winter led to media speculation. Page 1

Mogadishu secured

Heavily armed American troops secured all key positions in the Somali capital, Mogadishu, yesterday, as the gangs of gunmen melted away and crowds gathered to welcome the Marines. The 18,000 marines and tons of equipment were ferried in at dawn from an offshore task force by a fleet of helicopters and amphibious vessels. It was their first amphibious landing since the Grenada invasion. Pages 1, 15

Closures shelved

John Major is to be told by senior cabinet colleagues that most of the pit closures announced in October will have to be shelved at the end of Michael Heseltine's review early next year. Page 6

Gaidar rejected

Russia's Congress of People's Deputies yesterday dealt a blow to President Yeltsin's authority, and the country's economic reforms, by rejecting Yegor Gaidar, his candidate for prime minister. Page 13

Decision confirmed

The Court of Appeal yesterday confirmed that doctors should be allowed to switch off the feeding machine of Tony Bland, the Hillsborough disaster victim, in line with the High Court ruling last month. Page 8

New proposals

Britain yesterday tabled fresh proposals designed to secure agreement at the Edinburgh

summit on plans that will encourage the Danish people to accept the Maastricht treaty in a second referendum. Page 11

French doubts

As President Mitterrand prepares for the Edinburgh summit, doubts are being voiced across France over the fate of his vision of a grand quasi-federation of Europe. Page 12

Thatcher support

Baroness Thatcher urged John Major yesterday to stand firm against China's threats over Hong Kong when she supported proposals from the governor to introduce more democracy before the 1997 hand-over. Page 10

Tourist raped

A British tourist has been raped on a beach south of Durban in South Africa. The woman, 44, was sitting on some rocks when she was dragged into bushes by men armed with a knife and a screwdriver. Page 6

Nazis blamed

A mosque and a Sikh temple came under attack for the first time as violence in Britain's Asian community escalated and the death toll in India rose to more than 600. Pages 7, 13

Slipping the net

The blockade of Lochinver harbour by fishermen and the entertainment planned by trawlermen for EC heads of government in Edinburgh are symptoms of the strains pushing EC fisheries policy to collapse. Page 8

Too close for comfort

A millionaire who bought the house next to his estranged wife in the hope of a reconciliation has been ordered by a court to leave each day at sunset. Bill Garwood is allowed to visit during daylight hours only to mow the lawn, wash the windows and pick up his mail. Hereford County Court says he must spend the night elsewhere. Page 6



At bay: a US Marine keeping back Somali youths while a hovercraft unloaded at Mogadishu airport yesterday. Pages 1, 15

ERM ploy: John Major suggested

that the European exchange-rate mechanism should be related to the yen and the dollar as part of a reconstruction that would allow Britain to rejoin. Page 23

Lombard: A German businessman is

supporting half a £170 million cash call by the trading conglomerate and buying half Tiny Rowland's 15 per cent shareholding for £50 million. Page 23

Markets: Sterling fell sharply

yesterday with the pound's trade weighted index losing 1.1 points to close at 80.4. This reflected a fall from \$1.5960 to \$1.5665 and from DM2.4942 to DM2.4641. Stockmarkets slipped and the FTSE 100 index fell 19.1 points to close at 2,750.7. Page 26

Athletics: Women will be allowed

to compete against men on the track for the first time next year after the British Athletic Federation decided to sanction races between men and women of a similar standard. Page 44

Tennis: Andre Agassi, a key figure

in the United States Davis Cup win at the weekend, succumbed to Michael Chang in straight sets in the first round of the Grand Slam Cup in Munich. Page 42

Cricket: Sri Lanka gained their

third victory in 42 Test matches when they beat New Zealand by nine wickets in Colombo yesterday. They had previously defeated India and Pakistan. Page 40

Facing the problem: The physical

and mental miseries of acne can last for life. Page 17

Key to a tragedy: What are the

advantages and disadvantages of keyhole surgery? Dr Thomas Stuttaford views the operational battlefield. Page 17

Sleeping rough: There is no perfect

sleeping pill. They soon lose their effect and are virtually useless after being taken continuously for more than ten to 14 days. So what is an insomniac to do? Page 17

Arise and the women: According to

a study, 21 out of 25 healthy women with unexplained enlarged armpit glands regularly used a roll-on deodorant. Page 17

Sequel rites: Geoff Brown reviews

Macaulay Culkin in this year's big Christmas film, *Home Alone 2: Lost in New York*. Page 33

Shelf life: Are librarians the dusty

relics of popular imagination, or are they the repressed revolutionaries and philanderers of film and literature? A new study reveals the truth. Page 35

West Side stories: A surreal vision

of New York low life. *Welded Rising*, has opened at the Royal Court Theatre Upstairs. Page 34

Dance lessons: The Netherlands

Dance Theater is taking ballet into the next century, our Royal Ballet should take note, argues John Percival. Page 34

Almost every European state is

having its awkward moments and the popular consensus on a joint European future has crumbled. Roger Boyes considers all the implications. Page 16

Fair lady finds her Pygmalion:

When Margaret Wheeler was convinced that she had been given the wrong baby in hospital she wrote to George Bernard Shaw for advice. Thus began a remarkable dialogue. Page 37

Daniel Johnson reports on a fasci-

inating collection of fiction and books on chess suitable for the ad-dict's Christmas stocking. Page 37

A trenchant documentary goes in search of Britain's low paid and finds many examples of people in full-time work who earn barely enough to live on. *Critical Eye* (Channel 4, 9pm) Page 43

A separation

Yesterday's announcement should not, however, be a matter for public misery. The separation is in many ways a relief. The truth did not break on "a stunned and sorrowing people", the words which we used to describe the news of King Edward VIII's abdication. There is little place to be stunned, in a country where one marriage in three ends in divorce. Page 19

Gaidar agonistes

The struggle, which has more than a whiff of old Kremlin politics about it, is over who governs Russia, and for whose benefit. Page 19

Too bad to be true

With the flow of redundancy announcements now drying up ahead of Christmas, the doomsday is having to turn to another fountain of economic poison. Page 19

BEN MACINTYRE

The Somali "enemy" had long since vanished and in military terms the dramatic landing was perfectly unnecessary, as television it was riveting and as military PR it was a disaster. Page 18

PHILIP HOWARD

If there really is alien life out there in outer space, the aliens can have no doubt about the existence of planet Earth. They can hear us coming from a million miles away, and it is not a pretty noise. Page 18

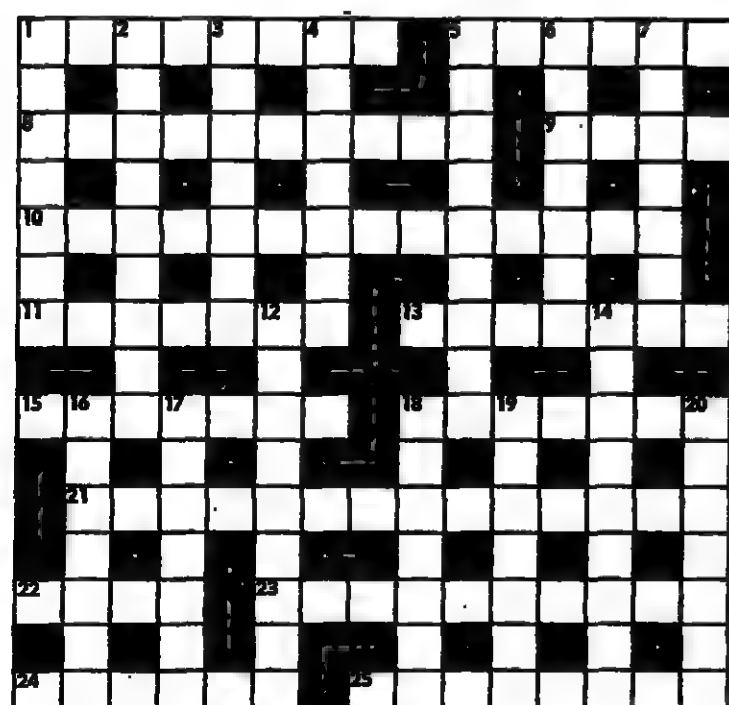
JOHN GRIGG

Most marriages go through periods of strain, but it is the whole point of marriage that the partners, especially those who have made Christian vows, should not let when the going is hard. Page 18

Readers debate the rights and wrongs of further Western involvement in the civil war in the former Yugoslav republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina. Page 19

We urge a prompt British and French response to President Bush's proposal for a joint civilian monitoring team in Kosovo, "Post-war" Europe, we say, but is Europe post-war? The answer may lie in Kosovo. Los Angeles Times

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,098



ACROSS

- 1 When one is depressed it can be alarming (4-4).
- 5 One sex, say, can make silly mid-on duck (6).
- 8 Secure space for valuables (10).
- 9 Fair that will do twice (2,2).
- 10 Is an index essential to such art? (6-8).
- 11 Understatement in T S Eliot play (7).
- 13 Name of place in which Cobbleigh kept the horse? (7).
- 15 Having two necks, one was plucked, O, bother the mess! (7).
- 18 Bandit chieftain who opened up Moby-Dick (7).
- 21 Do its sufferers find their stairs too tricky? (14).
- 22 Unusual voice of a naval officer finding love (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,097

ACADEMIC
EUROPE
MISTRUST
PRISON
GEM
INSTANT
FINALE
ORIENT
YACHT
TINFRINGE
ET
GROUNDS
UNINTO
HIN
FLASHMAN
U
O
C
I
C
S
D
T
PLEDGE
ATHLETES
C
O
U
R
I
G
H
AVERS
TIGERMAN
G
E
L
N
S
PARODIST
DOTTED

DOWN

- 23 Denestable girl's squalling (10).
- 24 Senior covering donkey - it's one that puffs (6).
- 25 Three-cornered bar in the kitchen (8).
- 1 This follower of immaculate miners' leader is retiring (7).
- 2 Operatic spectacles put up by Handel, we hear (9).
- 3 Follow the joke is on becomes peppy (7).
- 4 Skins pickles (7).
- 5 Realm of party favourites? (9).
- 6 Cross with a black foot, say, on one side? (7).
- 7 Japanese play taking a long time to mount (over a year) gets a bouquet (7).
- 12 To do needlework, colour yarn in this manner (9).
- 14 Note on kind of trumpet is almost a success (4,5).
- 16 House with awful mould is becoming a crooked one (7).
- 17 Prospect from square study? (7).
- 18 The whole or partial point E Germany makes? (7).
- 19 Herons flying over a Humberside town (7).
- 20 Flag in narrow street leading to Italian course (7).

Concise Crossword, page 44

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0800 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
West Midlands	702
East Midlands	703
North East	704
North West	705
Yorkshire & the Humber	706
West Midlands	707
East Midlands	708
North East	709
North West	710
Yorkshire & the Humber	711
West Midlands	712
East Midlands	713
North East	714
North West	715
Yorkshire & the Humber	716
West Midlands	717
East Midlands	718
North East	719
North West	720
Yorkshire & the Humber	721
West Midlands	722
East Midlands	723
North East	724
North West	725
Yorkshire & the Humber	726
West Midlands	727
East Midlands	728
North East	729
North West	730
Yorkshire & the Humber	731
West Midlands	732
East Midlands	733
North East	734
North West	735
Yorkshire & the Humber	736
West Midlands	737
East Midlands	738
North East	739
North West	740
Yorkshire & the Humber	741
West Midlands	742
East Midlands	743
North East	744
North West	745
Yorkshire & the Humber	746

Weatherwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

C London (within N & S Cls)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M25	734
M-ways/roads M25-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

Much of England and Wales will be cloudy, with drizzle in places. Wales and the North will have some sunshine after overnight fog. Patchy rain will spread into the North and North Wales. Northwest Scotland will be wet and windy. Northern Ireland, southern and eastern Scotland will have rain by evening. It will be mild in the North but cold in the South East. Outlook: rain moving southeast, followed by showers.

Yesterday: Temp: max 6m to 6pm, 5C (45F); min 6m to 6pm, 5C (45F). Humidity: 6pm, 55 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, trace. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 11. Bar: mean sea level, 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Wind: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb.

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Penzance, Cornwall, 11C (52F). Lowest day temp: Strath, Abernethy, 1C (34F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.03in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 11. Bar: mean sea level, 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Wind: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb.

Yesterday: Temp: max 6m to 6pm, 7C (45F); min 6m to 6pm, 1C (34F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.03in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 11. Bar: mean sea level, 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Wind: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb.

Yesterday: Temp: max 6m to 6pm, 5C (41F); min 6m to 6pm, 1C (34F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.03in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 11. Bar: mean sea level, 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Wind: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb.

Yesterday: Temp: max 6m to 6pm, 5C (41F); min 6m to 6pm, 1C (34F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.03in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 11. Bar: mean sea level, 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Wind: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb.

Yesterday: Temp: max 6m to 6pm, 5C (41F); min 6m to 6pm, 1C (34F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.03in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 11. Bar: mean sea level, 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Wind: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb.

Yesterday: Temp: max 6m to 6pm, 5C (41F); min 6m to 6pm, 1C (34F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.03in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 11. Bar: mean sea level, 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Wind: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb.

Yesterday: Temp: max 6m to 6pm, 5C (41F); min 6m to 6pm, 1C (34F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.03in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 11. Bar: mean sea level, 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Wind: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb.

Yesterday: Temp: max 6m to 6pm, 5C (41F); min 6m to 6pm, 1C (34F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.03in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 11. Bar: mean sea level, 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Wind: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb.

Yesterday: Temp: max 6m to 6pm, 5C (41F); min 6m to 6pm, 1C (34F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.03in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 11. Bar: mean sea level, 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Wind: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb.

Yesterday: Temp: max 6m to 6pm, 5C (41F); min 6m to 6pm, 1C (34F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.03in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 11. Bar: mean sea level, 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Wind: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb.

Yesterday: Temp: max 6m to 6pm, 5C (41F); min 6m to 6pm, 1C (34F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.03in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 11. Bar: mean sea level, 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Wind: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb.

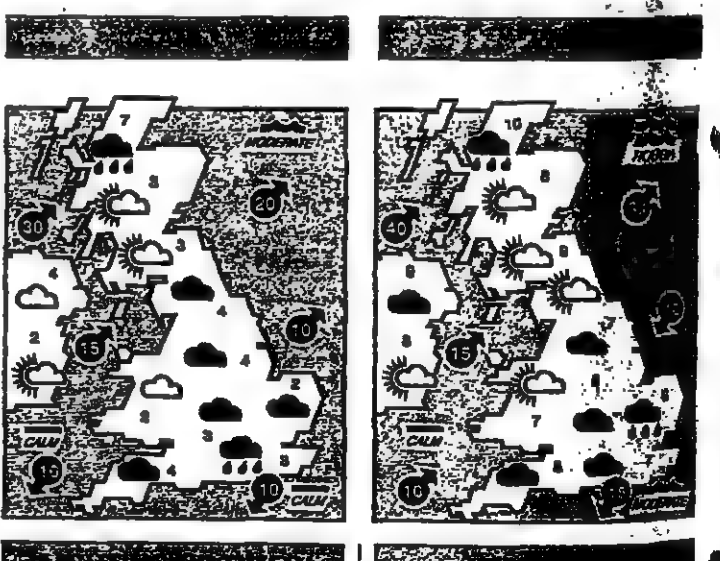
Yesterday: Temp: max 6m to 6pm, 5C (41F); min 6m to 6pm, 1C (34F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.03in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 11. Bar: mean sea level, 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Wind: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb.

Yesterday: Temp: max 6m to 6pm, 5C (41F); min 6m to 6pm, 1C (34F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.03in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 11. Bar: mean sea level, 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Wind: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb.

Yesterday: Temp: max 6m to 6pm, 5C (41F); min 6m to 6pm, 1C (34F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.03in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 11. Bar: mean sea level, 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Wind: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb.

Yesterday: Temp: max 6m to 6pm, 5C (41F); min 6m to 6pm, 1C (34F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.03in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 11. Bar: mean sea level, 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Wind: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb.

Yesterday: Temp: max 6m to 6pm, 5C (41F); min 6m to 6pm, 1C (34F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.03in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 11. Bar: mean sea level, 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Wind: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 1,020.0 mb.



London 5.52 pm to 7.56 am
Belfast 4.52 pm to 6.56 am
Edinburgh 3.30 pm to 5.34 am
Manchester 3.30 pm to 5.34 am
Penzance 4.52 pm to 6.56 am

Temperatures at midday yesterday: Belfast 6.4C, Glasgow 6.4C, London 6.4C, Manchester 6.4C, Penzance 6.4C.

Sun time: 7.55 am. Sun sets: 3.52 pm. Moon time: 8.22 am. Moon rises: 3.30 pm.

Last quarter December 16

Today: AM 11.5, MT 11.5, PM 11.5, HT 11.5.

Today: AM 11.5, MT 11.5, PM 11.5, HT 11.5.

Today: AM 11.5, MT 11.5, PM 11.5, HT 11.5.

Today: AM 11.5, MT 11.5, PM 11.5, HT 11.5.

Today: AM 11.5, MT 11.5, PM 11.5, HT 11.5.

Today: AM 11.5, MT 11.5, PM 11.5, HT 11.5.

Today: AM 11.5, MT 11.5, PM 11.5, HT 11.5.

Today: AM 11.5, MT 11.5, PM 11.5, HT 11.5.

Today: AM 11.5, MT 11.5, PM 11.5, HT 11.5.

Today: AM 11.5, MT 11.5, PM 11.5, HT 11.5.

Today: AM 11.5, MT 11.5, PM 11.5, HT 11.5.

ARTS
Kath gave a ba

BUSINESS
TODAY

THE POUND

STOCK MARKET

INTEREST RATES

CURRENCIES

GOLD
NORTH SEA OIL
RETAIL PRICES



ARTS 33-35

Katharine Hepburn gave librarians a bad name



CHARITIES 32

A guide to effective giving this Christmas



SPORT 39-44

Simon Barnes on the revival of America's Team

TELEVISION AND RADIO
Page 43

THE TIMES

2

THURSDAY DECEMBER 10 1992

BUSINESS TODAY

ARTS AWARD

The Arthur Andersen award, held in association with *The Times*, honours the work of volunteer business advisers helping the arts
Page 30

AMSTRAD VOTE

Amstrad shareholders meeting today in London are widely expected to reject Alan Sugar's offer of 30p a share
Page 27

COAL JOBS

A further 26,000 jobs will be lost if the plan to close 31 coal pits goes ahead, Gillian Shephard warns
Page 25

ACCOUNTANCY

The present council of the English ACA is almost incapable of making swift decisions, claims Robert Bruce
Page 31

US dollar
1.5665 (-0.0295)
German mark
2.4841 (-0.0301)
Exchange index
80.4 (-1.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

MARKET

FT 30 share
2074.8 (+18.4)
FT-SE 100
2750.7 (-19.1)
New York Dow Jones
3339.58 (+11.35)
Tokyo Nikkei Ave
17406.22 (+124.37)

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Rate 7%
3-month interbank 7 1/8%
3-month prime 8 1/8%
US Prime Rate 6%
Federal Funds 3 1/2%
3-month Treasury Bills 3.24-3.22%
30-year bonds 102 1/2-102 3/4

CURRENCIES

London: New York
£/\$1.5700
£/DM1.4657
£/Sfr1.2103
£/FF6.4680
£/Yen194.76
£/Index 80.4
ECU 10.796796
ECU/250000
London Foreign market close

GOLD

London: AM \$333.40 PM \$333.50
Close \$333.75-334.25
\$212.40-212.90
New York
Comex \$333.65-334.15

CRUDE OIL

Brent (Jan) \$17.80/bbl (\$17.95)

RETAIL PRICES

RPI: 130.9 October (1987-100)
* Denotes midday trading price

Lonrho issue paves way for Rowland exit

By MARTIN WALLER

DIETER Bock, a German businessman and owner of the Kempinski luxury hotels chain, has ridden to the aid of Lonrho. Tiny Rowland's debt-plagued international trading conglomerate, by underwriting half of a planned £170 million rights issue, has secured the company's survival.

As part of the deal he will buy nearly half Mr Rowland's 15 per cent shareholding for £50 million and take an option to buy most of the rest.

In a wide-ranging financial restructuring, Lonrho is also selling VAG, its British Volkswagen and Audi dealer, for £124 million. The rights, on a three-for-ten basis, will involve the issue of almost 200 million new shares at 85p. Apart from the 100 million Herr Bock has guaranteed to take, the rest of the issue is not underwritten, so the exact amount that will come in to replenish Lonrho's

offerings will depend on market response. The issue price compares with Lonrho's share price of 79p, up 5p last night as wind of the deal reached the market. The shares started the year at 177p.

Herr Bock is paying 115p each for 43.5 million shares out of Mr Rowland's personal holding. This is the first time Mr Rowland has ever sold Lonrho shares. Herr Bock also has an option to buy 45.5 million of Mr Rowland's remaining shares after three years or, if later, when Mr Rowland ceases to be a Lonrho director. Mr Rowland has a similar option to require Herr Bock to buy.

Lonrho, which reported a

drop in first half pre-tax profits from £109 million to £38 million, says that the recovery that Mr Rowland forecast in the second half did not take place. Net after-tax profits attributable to shareholders for the year to end-September are now estimated at £82 million, but this is after crediting extraordinary gains of £76 million. A final dividend of 2p is forecast, bringing the annual sum to 4p (13p).

Several overseas shareholders, including Genting, the vehicle of Tan Sri Lim, the Malaysian tycoon, have already established a foothold on Lonrho's share register. Gencor, the South African mining group, has said it is interested in Lonrho's South African coal mining and platinum interests, which would fit well with its Impela platinum operations. Lonrho also has a 45 per cent holding in the Ashanti gold mine in Ghana, with which Gencor has a technical agreement covering gold processing.

Lonrho, many of whose assets are in Africa, has admitted to a sterling debt problem and has been selling assets to raise cash. In South Africa, it has close mining links with Gencor. Genting, involved in plantations and casinos, is thought to be interested in the group's hotels and casinos.

Lonrho's core businesses have been battered by the recession and the low price on world markets of platinum, and there has been growing disaffection in the City at the management and autocratic style of Mr Rowland. 75.

The company's standing in the City was further hit by news in spring that Lonrho would be selling a one-third stake in its Metropole Hotels business to Libya for £177.5 million. This raised fears that it could end up on America's list of banned companies because of United Nations sanctions against Libya. The Libyan deal was cleared by the department of trade and industry in June.

Comment, page 27

Major proposes rebuilding ERM

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

JOHN MAJOR suggested that the European exchange-rate mechanism should be related to the dollar and the yen as part of a reconstruction of the system that would enable Britain to rejoin.

The proposal, made in a private meeting with European employers and trade union leaders, is likely to surprise economists and politicians, but business leaders are expected to pursue it in forthcoming talks with the Treasury.

Since Britain left the ERM on September 16, ministers have made clear that Britain will rejoin only when conditions are right. The Treasury insists that those would include ending turbulence on the foreign exchanges, bringing UK and German monetary policy more closely into line and reducing interest rate differentials.

At yesterday's meeting, which was attended by Howard Davies, director-general of the CBI and Norman Willis, general secretary of the TUC,

among others, Mr Major detailed several European economic issues that he insisted were "interlinked", including progress on the single market and the Gatt agreement.

According to those present, he then mentioned the difficulties with the ERM over the summer, up to and including September 16, and said several problems about the reconstruction of the system remained.

He said that when the system was rebuilt, Europe would have to look at the ERM's relationship with the yen and the dollar. Some economists believe such a relationship with currencies outside Europe would create greater stability; others argue that it would increase the constraints and pressures on European currencies and compound the difficulties that caused Britain to leave the mechanism.

Politically, Mr Major's suggestion could prove difficult on the eve of the European summit in Edinburgh.

Isosceles chief to step down

By JON ASPIWORTH

ALISTAIR MITCHELL-INNES is stepping down as chief executive of Isosceles, the heavily indebted parent of Gateway, the supermarket chain.

News of his departure, announced after yesterday's monthly board meeting, came with confirmation of a review of the group's financial structure. There had been talk that trading difficulties would force the group into a third big refinancing, less than six

weeks after the second. Mr Mitchell-Innes, who was appointed chief executive in September 1991, after the departure of David Smith, will step down next year. He will continue to have primary responsibility for Gateway Foodmarkets until a new chief executive has been appointed.

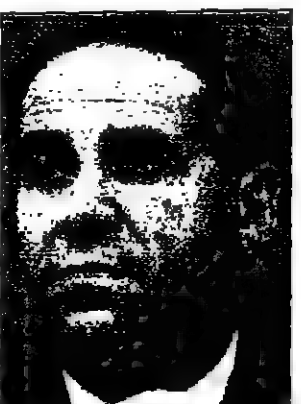
Ernest Sharp, chairman of Isosceles, said it had been agreed when Mr Mitchell-Innes joined that he would

step down in 1993. Mr Sharp said in a statement: "We have been reviewing our trading strategy to determine the most appropriate way of positioning the group's portfolio of stores. To this end we are working with a firm of management consultants."

This is the second big change at the group in two months. Bob Willett stepped down as chief executive of Gateway in October.

Brittan seethes over Fiat cash critics

From TOM WALKER
IN BRUSSELS



Sir Leon: angry

SIR Leon Brittan, EC competition commissioner, was said to be furious yesterday at criticism of his decision to allow the Italian government to pump £2.47 billion into Fiat, the troubled car group. "He's not at all happy. People just aren't looking at the facts," his spokesman said.

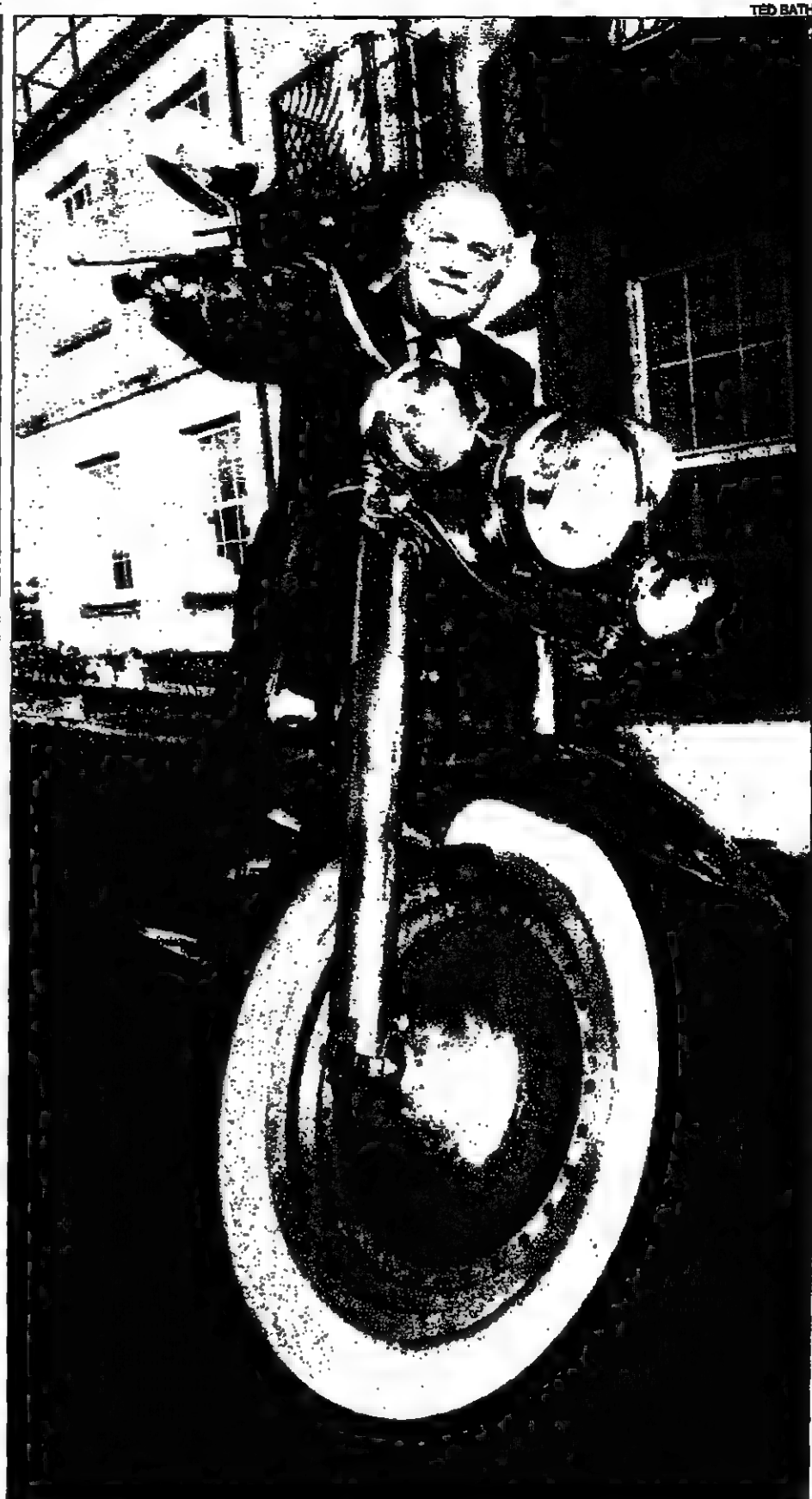
Brussels has allowed the aid because Fiat will use it to build two new factories in Mezzogiorno, the poor southern region, while closing factories in the richer North. The overall effect is to raise the group's car production by 3 per cent and overall EC car output by just 0.2 per cent, way beneath expected increases in demand. At the

same time the commission expects huge spin-off benefits to ancillary industries in southern Italy. The new plant at Melfi will produce Fiat's replacement for the Uno, co-

financing codenamed the Tipo R. Over the next decade, Fiat will renew its entire 18-model range as part of a multi-billion pound investment plan that will shift production towards the south of Italy. About £400 million of the aid will be given in grants for research and development, as Fiat is "making genuine advances", according to Sir Leon's spokesman. Both factories—the second, in Pratola Serra, will make engines—will be highly automated, and will help secure the company's lead in robotic technology in Europe. Fiat is already selling automated factory equipment to its rivals on the Continent, and recently helped Ford re-equip its plant at Genk, in Belgium. Sir Leon also allowed German aid yes-

terday totalling £105 million for the new Opel car plant in Eisenach, in former East Germany. Again the impact on local employment helped convince Sir Leon: the Eisenach plant will employ 2,000 workers and create 25,000 supply jobs.

Sir Leon's next major car industry decision will come next week, when he is expected to give the Portuguese government the go-ahead to pump £438 million pounds into a new Volkswagen-Ford joint venture at Setúbal, which will build a Renault Espace-type van, codenamed the VX-62. The project has led Matra, the company that makes the Espace under licence from Renault, to lodge a complaint with the European Court.



Motoring ahead: Lord Farnham, chairman of Avon Rubber, where profits rose 36 per cent

Eagle Star boosted by BAT

By SARAH BAGNALL

BAT Industries, the tobacco and financial services group, has bolstered the balance sheet of its Eagle Star insurance subsidiary by injecting £450 million. The intention is to strengthen the company's position for general and life business, both of which have been under pressure.

The need for a large investment in Eagle Star has long been mooted. The company made pre-tax losses of £56 million in the nine months to September 30, compared with £248 million previously, and has suffered from the flood of claims on domestic mortgage indemnity policies, against which £261 million of provisions have been made so far.

Its solvency margin, a safety net that ensures the company is able to meet its obligations, has also dropped sharply, from a peak of 113 per cent in 1985 to about 30 per cent before the investment. This 30 per cent figure falls to 20 per cent if the benefits of discounting loss reserves, which is done by few companies besides Eagle Star, are stripped out.

The minimum accepted by the trade department, the insurance sector's regulator, is 16 per cent. The injection lifts the margin to more than 50 per cent, after discounting loss reserves, in line with other companies in the sector.

The injection will lift Eagle Star Life Assurance's free asset ratio from about 5 to 15 per cent, compared with above 20 per cent for Commercial Union, Britannic and the Prudential.

It is widely believed that the bulk of the £450 million investment is being ploughed into the life business.

Martin Broughton, Eagle Star chairman, said the capital injection enabled the company to take on new business, which was appearing as a result of recovery in the underwriting cycle.

Temps, page 25

Avon Rubber bounces above £9m

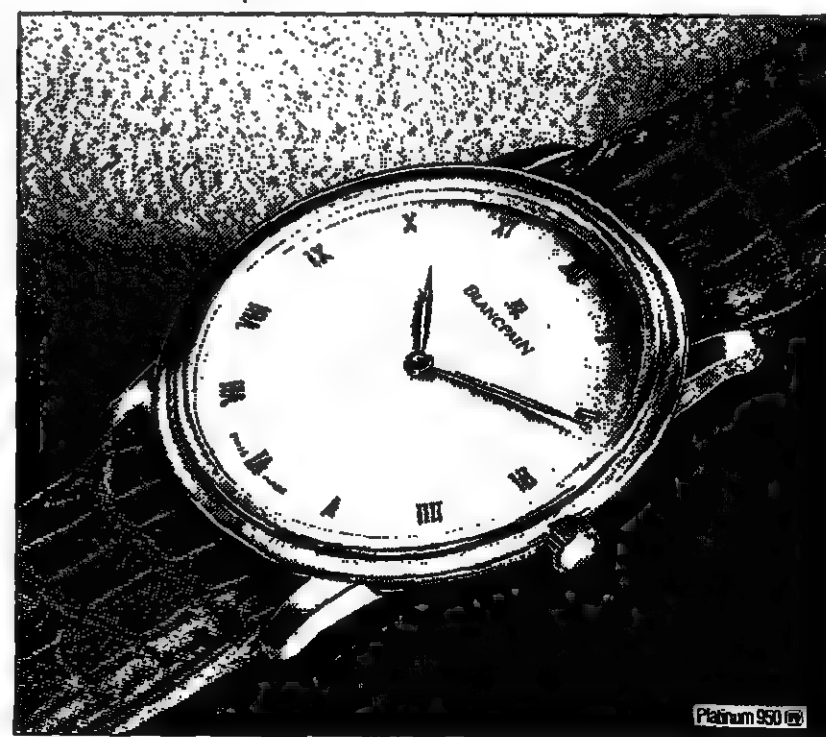
By OUR CITY STAFF

COST savings from earlier reorganisation allowed Avon Rubber, the tyre and automotive components company, to recover sharply in the year to October 3. Profits grew 36 per cent to £9.15 million before exceptional items and tax.

The figures were accompanied by an upbeat statement from Lord Farnham, the chairman, who said there were reasons to be confident about the future. These included the benefits of reorganisation and a growing international spread.

A £208,000 gain reflects a £1.51 million profit from the sale of a half-share in the automotive business, offset by write-downs in the value of investments. Earnings per share before exceptional items rose 40 per cent to 27.9p. An 11.5p final dividend gives a total unchanged at 16.5p.

BLANCPAIN



The ultra-slim watch

SINCE 1735 THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A QUARTZ BLANCPAIN WATCH. AND THERE NEVER WILL BE.

GARRARD
THE CROWN JEWELLERS

112 REGENT STREET LONDON W1A 2JJ
TEL: 01-734 7020 FAX: 01-439 9179

Estimate for knock-on job cuts from pit closures lower

■ The employment secretary told a Commons select committee that up to 26,000 jobs could be lost if 31 pits are closed, far fewer than the 70,000 industry estimates

By Jonathan Prynn and Ross Tremain

UP TO 26,000 additional jobs could be lost in local communities and companies dependent on the coal industry if the government proceeds with its plan to close 31 pits, Gillian Shephard, the employment secretary, told MPs yesterday.

The estimate, which was made in a memorandum to the Commons employment select committee, contrasts with estimates of up to 70,000 knock-on job losses made by industry observers.

As well as the 29,500 jobs at the pits, the memorandum identifies a further 17,000 jobs in contracting, supply and other industries that would be put at risk by the closures. Of these, about half are in manufacturing.

Estimates in the memorandum on the scale of the job losses in local communities are couched in cautious terms because of unpredictable factors that could affect the final total. However, the department concludes that between 3,000 and 6,000 jobs in "travel to work" areas around the pits could be wiped out. In addition, a further 3,000 transport jobs are in danger, partly because of the reduced demand for coal from the power generators.

Mining equipment manufacturers told MPs they would be forced to shed more than 15,000 workers if British Coal is allowed to close 31 pits.

In evidence to the Commons trade and industry select committee, the Association of British Mining Equipment Companies (Abmec) said their annual sales will slump from £907 million to just £575 million, the association said.

If its domestic sales base was sharply reduced, the industry might lose its world leadership

role to Germany, and many companies would concentrate their activities overseas.

The gloomy message was contained in submissions that highlight the scale of contraction the mining equipment industry has already undergone. A memorandum compiled by William Morrell, director-general of Abmec, says the closure of 142 British Coal mines between 1983 and 1992 has already presented "extreme difficulties" for equipment makers. Between the end of 1987 and December last year, Abmec's 50 member companies shed 50,000 employees.

The cost of contraction had weakened company balance sheets and swallowed funds that would have been better invested in developing new or improved products, he said.

Until recently, British Coal was the world's largest consumer of mining equipment. That backbone of domestic demand had enabled the industry to become a world leader. But it has made strenuous efforts to build up exports to compensate for declining domestic demand.

British longwall mining equipment dominates deep mines around the world. Half the roof supports and conveyor equipment in American mines was made in Britain. In Mexico, South Africa and Australia, the proportion exceeds 80 per cent, and in Japan, every mine conveyor was made in Britain.

But Miss Beverley Webster, vice-president of Abmec, said British Coal had not placed a single substantial order this year. Moreover, many overseas buyers had suspended buying in the hope of buying surplus machines from British Coal.



Play time: Peter Greenall (left) with chairman Andrew Thomas try the delights of Greenall's 'jungle bungle'

Manweb interims up by a third

By Patricia Tehan

MANWEB, the Chester-based regional electricity company, pushed pre-tax profits up 35 per cent in the half-year to September 30, helped by an £11 million turnaround in its supply business.

The profits increase, from £27.5 million to £37.1 million, was achieved despite the company's decision to hold price rises to 1.9 per cent, below the industry average and under the rate of inflation. Manweb is increasing its interim divi-

dend by 12 per cent, from 5.45p to 6.1p.

John Roberts, chief executive, said the improvement was partly due to a 2 per cent increase in distribution to industrial customers. He said: "There are signs of industry picking up, measured by sales, and we have had significant inward investment."

Manweb won 47 customers in the non-franchise market (consumers of more than one megawatt). Thirteen of these

were from outside the region; six were lost to other companies.

Electricity distribution to the commercial sector grew by under 1 per cent, while units distributed to domestic customers fell by just over 1 per cent, because the spring was warmer than last year.

Manweb is the only regional company not to move into gas-fired power generation. Its only generation projects are wind farms.

Greenalls beer sales still falling

BEER volumes sold in public houses owned by Greenalls Group, the North West public house and hotels company, are still falling as the important Christmas trading season approaches, but the rate of decline is slowing, said Peter Greenall, managing director.

Greenalls' unpaired estimates made at the time of October's £86 million rights issue with pre-tax profits up from £64.1 million to £64.4 million in the year to September 25 after seeing property profits £2.85 million lower. The final dividend is confirmed at 6.93p, making a total up from 11.0p to 11.77p.

A writedown for the group's American hotels to their disposal value leaves an extraordinary charge of £14.9 million, while a similar reduction in the value of the British portfolio cuts the revaluation reserve by £35.6 million.

Tempos, this page

Countrywide sees housing glimmer

ALAN Cherry, chairman of Countrywide Properties, the Essex housebuilder, has spied signs of recovery in the housing market since the government started the attempt to expand the economy this autumn (Martin Waller writes).

Enquiries at the company's sites are up 32 per cent year-on-year and firm reservations 35 per cent ahead. "We reckon

that the low interest rates and all the other things the Chancellor said in his Autumn Statement have had some impact. But we have had two or three false dawns in the last three years," he said. "We're a bit cautious in saying the upturn has started."

Countrywide has again slipped into a full-year loss after being forced to take a

£14.8 million provision against the value of land and property holdings.

A pre-tax deficit of £11.7 million contrasts with a £3.05 million profit last time, but the final dividend of 2.70p, being paid out of reserves, leaving the total maintained at 4.11p. Borrowings remained within limits agreed with the banks.

Capital boost lifts Eagle away from danger

BAT Industries' massive £450 million cash injection into its insurance offshoot, Eagle Star, is not going to pressurise other insurers to follow suit and recapitalise, despite flagging insolvency margins around the industry.

The much-needed and widely expected capital boost has dragged Eagle Star's solvency ratio, a safety net that ensures insurance companies are able to meet their obligations, back from a worryingly low level to one more in line with most of its peers. The injection has not, however, propelled the company into a position of superior solvency, far from it.

Eagle Star can now boast a ratio above 50 per cent, which puts it up with insurers such as General Accident, at 45 per cent. However, the figures are not directly comparable because Eagle Star's calculation is based on a method more at home on the other side of the Atlantic. By taking the unusual step of discounting loss reserves, the company's solvency margin is flattered by about 10 per cent. M&G uses this approach



Help for Eagle Star: Sir Patrick Sheehy, BAT chief

while Royal Insurance has a quirky corporate structure that favours its figures.

Even after stripping out Eagle Star's discounting, the cash injection is extremely welcome. The solvency margin is no longer languishing at around 20 per cent, a far cry

from the 113 per cent the company boasted in 1985. Most of the decline has been since 1989, when the margin was at 99.9 per cent, and has been experienced by the sector as a whole. The market has been well aware of the pressure on companies' balance

sheets for some time and there has been a willingness to accept today's reduced margins of 40-odd per cent because of the belief that there is a light at the end of the tunnel. The expectation that the herd will follow Commercial Union and a few others to profits in 1993 and onwards has proved sufficient to allay fears over low solvency margins. As a consequence, Eagle Star's competitors have been saved from searching out further means of bolstering shareholders' funds in an unwilling market.

Greenalls

THAT Christmas is arriving later and departing sooner may be good news for the Scrooges among us, but it is no help to a brewing sector battered by the downturn in consumer spending. Greenalls is not alone in hoping that festivities will last longer this year than in 1991.

Greenalls has cash in the bank, after October's rights issue, to take advantage of cheap buying opportunities. But the figures for the last

financial year, trailed in outline at the time of the rights, suggest that market conditions continue to make the going tough.

Distribution is, by the company's own admission, disappointing, despite heavy savings from job cuts, while hotels made gains on occupancy rates in the autumn but at the expense of tariffs. Benefits from lower interest rates will be limited by the decision to lock in much of the debt at 10.5 per cent, and pre-tax profits this year are unlikely to exceed £66 million by much, putting the shares on a forward multiple of 12.6. Immediate gains will be limited.

NFC

NFC's share price moved in several directions after the group reported pre-tax profits of £91 million for the year to October 3, compared with £93.7 million previously.

There was a £14.5 million pension fund credit, which compared with a £4 million credit last time, and redundancy charges above the line were £2.2 million higher at

£11.4 million. There were other one-off, but undisclosed, reorganisation items.

The thrust of the year was, however, that core operating profits in an otherwise difficult period were 3 per cent higher, and despite a modest dip in net earnings, the total dividend rises from 6.25p to 6.55p.

NFC's own "best estimate" of 1993 profits will be given on February 28, but there are early signs that the American economy is picking up, and there is some suggestion that currencies will move in NFC's favour in 1993. Profits from property activities will be a wild card, but elimination of last year's one-off items should see a further, and genuine, profits advance in 1993 to over £100 million.

The shares have long commanded a premium to the market, and there comes a time when the premium has to be questioned. At 266p, down 18p, they currently trade on 17.7 times prospective earnings. NFC shares are sound enough for when world economies recover but are well priced at the moment.

NFC raises payout as profits dip to £91m

PRE-TAX profits at NFC, the international transport and logistics company, slipped from £93.7 million to £91 million in the 12 months to October 3 but were in line with its own "best view" for the year. Earnings eased from 13.6p a share to 13.1p but the total dividend rises from 6.25p to 6.55p, with a 2.3p final. The shares closed 2p higher at 286p.

Operating profits rose just 1 per cent to £102.7 million, although there was a 3 per cent increase from core businesses to help offset a 23 per cent decline in earnings from property. Interest costs rose from £5 million to £8.4 million after a rise in borrowings resulting from a planned increase in investment. During the year NFC acquired 16 companies in eight countries for a total of £75 million. Jack Mather, chief executive, said the immediate economic future was uncertain but NFC had the financial strength and the right mix of businesses to achieve "satisfactory" results. *Tempos, this page*

Lombard sees no revival

CONSUMER confidence has not yet returned and industrial activity and investment have failed to pick up. Lombard North Central, the finance house, said. The company, part of National Westminster Bank, lifted pre-tax profits from £3.2 million to £89.8 million in the year to end-September, helped by a reduction in provisions for bad and doubtful debts from £171.8 million to £155.2 million. Total assets under its control fell by £500 million, reflecting the effects of recession. Earnings per share jumped to 31.5p from 12.8p.

Qantas bid by BA

BRITISH Airways has made a formal bid to take a 25 per cent share in Qantas, the Australian national airline. At least one other major international carrier, Singapore Airlines, met the deadline imposed by the Australian government for sealed bids. A final decision will probably be made in February. BA, which is thought to have bid about £300 million, points out that it is prevented by Australian law from holding more than a quarter of the shares. The Australian government will retain the controlling interest.

Oil prices slide again

OIL prices tumbled yesterday, extending a slide that has taken them down by 15 per cent in seven weeks because of market concern about excess supply. Traders ignored a Saudi Arabian warning that a correction was in prospect. Futures for the benchmark crude oil, North Sea Brent Blend, fell 12 cents to \$17.82, compared with almost \$21 in mid-October. Traders reacted to news from the American Petroleum Institute that US stocks of distillate — used for heating oil — rose by 3.99 million barrels last week.

Aircraft arm to be sold

GENERAL Dynamics has agreed to sell its tactical military aircraft business to Lockheed for \$1.525 billion in cash. General Dynamics said it expected to make a net gain of about \$650 million on the deal, which is expected to be completed during the first quarter of 1993, subject to regulatory approval. Lockheed will keep the division's present management and workforce, which numbers about 22,000. Lockheed said the acquisition would immediately increase earnings and cash flow.

Shipyard upturn 'near'

THE upturn in world shipbuilding looks set to arrive much earlier than expected and could be established by the end of next year, according to Erik Tonseth, president of Kvaerner, the Norwegian industrial group that owns Govan Shipyard in Glasgow. Mr Tonseth said in London that he had become considerably more optimistic about prospects during the past six months. He expected the Clyde yard to show a small profit next year. It has orders for five chemical carriers that will keep it fully employed until 1995.

Hepworth goes Dutch

HEPWORTH, the building materials group, is to acquire AWB, a Dutch combination boiler business, and some assets of Kiddy BV, a Dutch specialist condensing boiler maker, for £10.2 million. The deal is to be funded from the proceeds of a share placing raising £24.1 million. The balance will be used to strengthen continental European gas boiler operations. Existing shares rose 4p to 263p. AWB, a subsidiary of Mignot de Bloek, makes condensing, free-standing and conventional combination boilers and gas-fired radiators.

Brabant snubs merger

BRABANT Resources, the oil and gas exploration company, has snubbed an attempt by Aberdeen Petroleum, whose interests are in North America, to merge. Aberdeen, which acquired a 9.99 per cent interest in Brabant last month, said there was a recognised need for rationalisation in the industry. A merger would allow the enlarged group to work towards the payment of dividends. Brabant said a merger would offer no synergy and consolidation of assets was not of interest to employees or shareholders.

Protean soars to £1.4m

PROTEAN, the laboratory equipment supplier and water purification specialist formerly known as Elga Group, tripled pre-tax profits to £1.4 million (£462,000) in the six months to end-September and has announced an acquisition and paying. The company is paying £2.1 million for Epsom Glass Industries, a maker of specialist glass products, to be financed through a £2.5 million share placing. Earnings per share were 3.74p (1.94p). There is an interim dividend of 0.9p (0.6p).

Airsprung Furniture I
Pre-tax: £2.32m (£1.7m)
EPS: 11.82p (9.82p)
Div: 3.15p (2.63p)

John Tams Group I
Pre-tax: £378,000
EPS: 1.25p (1.05p)
Div: 1.53p (1.59p)

Thorn Holdings F
Pre-tax: £1.64m (£1.5m)
EPS: 11.88p (9.31p)
Div: Tot: 3.7p (3.25p)

NMC Group I
Pre-tax: £2.8m (£2.3m)
EPS: 2.01p (1.01p)
Div: 0.5p (1.25p)

Stirling Group I
Pre-tax: £1.4m (£0.6m)
EPS: 1.07p (1.03p)
Div: 0.5p (0.5p)

Granger Trust F
Pre-tax: £4.4m loss
EPS: 9.55p loss
Div: 4.05p, mkg 5.25p

Blick (Final)
Pre-tax: £2.6m (£8.3m)
EPS: 28p (21.83p)
Div: 6.2p, mkg 9.2p

Wiltshire furniture
group lifts pre-tax profits
37 per cent. Dividend
covered 3.75 times by earnings.

Profits up from £362,000.
Difficult trading period.
Bore china sales healthy.
Better trading prospects abroad.

Window fittings maker.
Shares rise 11p to 145p.
Final dividend of 2.44p plus
bonus dividend of 0.13p

Packaging company looking to
stronger dollar earnings in
second half. Good rise in
profits from core business.

Profits up 136 per cent due
to inclusion of Ritz Design
and Gifford. Good forward
order book.

Loss after exceptional item
of £5.7m compares with profit
of £1.4m previously. EPS: 8.05p
last time. Previous div: (5.25p)

Last year's total dividend was
8p. Turnover rose from £23.8m to
£30.9m. Contracted future rental
income rose from £68m to £85m

BELFASTER.

With almost 200 flights a week to Belfast from 10 regional airports you won't have far to travel before take-off with us.

And because we fly to Belfast City airport (just two miles from the City centre) you'll have a shorter journey on landing too. You can take a Belfaster trip from Birmingham, Blackpool, Bristol, Exeter, Guernsey, Isle of Man, Jersey, Leeds/Bradford, Southampton and Teesside. For further details see your travel agent or call 0345 676 676.

JERSEY EUROPEAN

STOCK MARKET

Guinness shares feel a new year chill

THERE appears to be little evidence of festive cheer at Guinness, where the shares fell 23p to 502p as the group faced up to the prospect of deteriorating trading conditions in 1993. Tony Greener, the chairman, has told the City that the world economy continues to look bleak and forecasts that next year will be even more difficult than 1992.

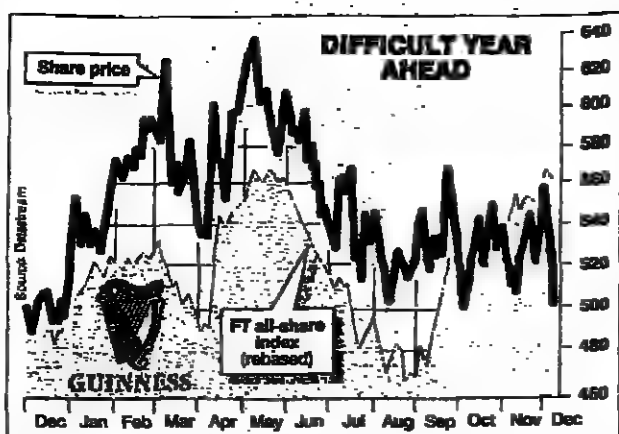
The absence of economic recovery means that Guinness will continue to concentrate on its core spirits and brewing division. But the message from the company means that those analysts who had been looking for profits of more than £1 billion for 1993 may soon start scaling down their forecasts. The Guinness price was also hit yesterday by news of a rise in beer excise duty in Spain. Guinness is Spain's biggest brewer.

Elsewhere, share prices followed the financial future lower after a firm start. This was also the signal for investors to start taking profits ahead of the start of new-time

dealings for the next account beginning on Monday. The FT-SE 100 index closed near its low of the day, down 19.1 at 2,750.7 as 660 million shares changed hands. Most investors now feel that today's meeting of the Bundesbank is unlikely to result in a cut in German interest rates.

Lombard, the international trading group, was a strong market climber, up 79p on talk of an announcement expected to give details of a major disposal and a fund-raising. Speculators were also excited by talk that Tiny Rowland, the chief executive, is diluting his 16 per cent holding in the company. A total of 4.4 million shares were traded. Lombard has been a weak counter of late and has underperformed the rest of the market.

Royal Insurance eased 1p to 264p and Standard Chartered jumped 12p to 535p as the Stock Exchange confirmed that they are to become constituents of the FT-SE 100 index. They will replace BET, down 2p at 81p, and Roll-Royce, 1p lighter at 100p, and are certain to attract the sup-



port of the index-tracking funds. Hepworth jumped 4p to 263p on its plans to acquire two Dutch boiler-makers. To

subscribed, Cadbury Schweppes, the soft drinks and confectionery group, formed 2p to 465p. It is meeting a

ment group, has also gone some way to soothing City fears by talking to fund managers. The group appears to have put its message across clearly. The shares rose 9p to 115p.

Amstrad, the consumer electronics group, eased 1p to 24p after shareholders rejected the proposed £113 million buy-out by Alan Sugar, the chairman. Almost 60 per cent of shareholders rejected the terms of 30p a share. Mr Sugar is now advertising for non-executive directors to be elected to the board to give shareholders a fair say in how the group is run.

British Airways slipped 2p to 277p after confirming a proposal to buy a 25 per cent stake in Qantas, the Australian national airline. Foreign shareholdings in Qantas are being limited to 25 per cent and it is expected that BA will have to compete with similar offers from rival airlines.

BAT Industries, with interests stretching from tobacco to financial services, fell 6p to 969p. The group is investing £450 million in its Eagle Star

insurance subsidiary to strengthen its market position. NFC, the road transport group, fell 18p to 266p after reporting full-year figures showing pre-tax profits down £2.7 million at £91 million. But the group said that the economic future remained uncertain.

News of losses left Countrywide Properties, the house-builder, 3p lower at 80p. The group reported a deficit of £11.7 million compared with a £3 million profit for the corresponding period. The figure was struck after exceptional items totalling £14.8 million relating to provisions and property write-downs.

Bullough, the mechanical engineer, touched 76p before ending the session 6p lower at 83p after giving a warning that profits for last year are likely to fall short of market expectations. The group is forecasting pre-tax profits of £8.5 million following charges of £3.3 million. It blames problems at Atal, its French subsidiary, for the setback.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

The Dow was up four points at 3,326, while in the broad market declining shares remained ahead of advancing shares by four to three. (Reuters)

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

MICHAEL CLARK

BRITISH FUNDS

STOCK shortages at the long-end provided government securities with another positive session as prices made headway even though the pound lost ground against the mark.

Fund managers have begun the onerous task of squaring up book positions ahead of the year-end to give an indication of their liquidity positions, but the recent strong performance in longs has created stock shortages.

Turnover was described as low with the March series of the long gilt future rising 2/16 with 21,700 contracts completed. Once again in the cash market, longs outperformed shorts with Treasury 9 per cent 2012 up 11 ticks at £102 1/2, while Treasury 8 1/2 per cent 1997 could add only four ticks at £105 1/2.

The undertone remains firm with brokers still looking for further reduction in bank base rates in the new year.

SHORTS (under 5 years)

High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	Open	Close
100	99	Treasury 9% 1997	102 1/2	+11	102 1/2	102 1/2
101	100	Treasury 8 1/2% 1997	105 1/2	+4	105 1/2	105 1/2
102	101	Treasury 8% 1997	108 1/2	+3	108 1/2	108 1/2
103	102	Treasury 7 1/2% 1997	111 1/2	+2	111 1/2	111 1/2
104	103	Treasury 7% 1997	114 1/2	+1	114 1/2	114 1/2
105	104	Treasury 6 1/2% 1997	117 1/2	0	117 1/2	117 1/2
106	105	Treasury 6% 1997	120 1/2	-1	120 1/2	120 1/2
107	106	Treasury 5 1/2% 1997	123 1/2	-2	123 1/2	123 1/2
108	107	Treasury 5% 1997	126 1/2	-3	126 1/2	126 1/2
109	108	Treasury 4 1/2% 1997	129 1/2	-4	129 1/2	129 1/2
110	109	Treasury 4% 1997	132 1/2	-5	132 1/2	132 1/2
111	110	Treasury 3 1/2% 1997	135 1/2	-6	135 1/2	135 1/2
112	111	Treasury 3% 1997	138 1/2	-7	138 1/2	138 1/2
113	112	Treasury 2 1/2% 1997	141 1/2	-8	141 1/2	141 1/2
114	113	Treasury 2% 1997	144 1/2	-9	144 1/2	144 1/2
115	114	Treasury 1 1/2% 1997	147 1/2	-10	147 1/2	147 1/2
116	115	Treasury 1% 1997	150 1/2	-11	150 1/2	150 1/2
117	116	Treasury 3/4% 1997	153 1/2	-12	153 1/2	153 1/2
118	117	Treasury 1/2% 1997	156 1/2	-13	156 1/2	156 1/2
119	118	Treasury 1/4% 1997	159 1/2	-14	159 1/2	159 1/2
120	119	Treasury 0% 1997	162 1/2	-15	162 1/2	162 1/2

LONGS (over 15 years)

High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	Open	Close
111	110	Treasury 9% 2007	110 1/2	+1	110 1/2	110 1/2
112	111	Treasury 8 1/2% 2007	113 1/2	+2	113 1/2	113 1/2
113	112	Treasury 8% 2007	116 1/2	+3	116 1/2	116 1/2
114	113	Treasury 7 1/2% 2007	119 1/2	+4	119 1/2	119 1/2
115	114	Treasury 7% 2007	122 1/2	+5	122 1/2	122 1/2
116	115	Treasury 6 1/2% 2007	125 1/2	+6	125 1/2	125 1/2
117	116	Treasury 6% 2007	128 1/2	+7	128 1/2	128 1/2
118	117	Treasury 5 1/2% 2007	131 1/2	+8	131 1/2	131 1/2
119	118	Treasury 5% 2007	134 1/2	+9	134 1/2	134 1/2
120	119	Treasury 4 1/2% 2007	137 1/2	+10	137 1/2	137 1/2
121	120	Treasury 4% 2007	140 1/2	+11	140 1/2	140 1/2
122	121	Treasury 3 1/2% 2007	143 1/2	+12	143 1/2	143 1/2
123	122	Treasury 3% 2007	146 1/2	+13	146 1/2	146 1/2
124	123	Treasury 2 1/2% 2007	149 1/2	+14	149 1/2	149 1/2
125	124	Treasury 2% 2007	152 1/2	+15	152 1/2	152 1/2
126	125	Treasury 1 1/2% 2007	155 1/2	+16	155 1/2	155 1/2
127	126	Treasury 1% 2007	158 1/2	+17	158 1/2	158 1/2
128	127	Treasury 3/4% 2007	161 1/2	+18	161 1/2	161 1/2
129	128	Treasury 1/2% 2007	164 1/2	+19	164 1/2	164 1/2
130	129	Treasury 1/4% 2007	167 1/2	+20	167 1/2	167 1/2

INDEX-LINKED

High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	Open	Close
100	99	Index-linked 2 1/2%	100 1/2	+1	100 1/2	100 1/2
101	100	Index-linked 2%	103 1/2	+2	103 1/2	103 1/2
102	101	Index-linked 1 1/2%	106 1/2	+3	106 1/2	106 1/2
103	102	Index-linked 1%	109 1/2	+4	109 1/2	109 1/2
104	103	Index-linked 3/4%	112 1/2	+5	112 1/2	112 1/2
105	104	Index-linked 1/2%	115 1/2	+6	115 1/2	115 1/2
106	105	Index-linked 1/4%	118 1/2	+7	118 1/2	118 1/2
107	106	Index-linked 0%	121 1/2	+8	121 1/2	121 1/2
108	107	Index-linked -1/4%	124 1/2	+9	124 1/2	124 1/2
109	108	Index-linked -1/2%	127 1/2	+10	127 1/2	127 1/2
110	109	Index-linked -3/4%	130 1/2	+11	130 1/2	130 1/2
111	110	Index-linked -1%	133 1/2	+12	133 1/2	133 1/2
112	111	Index-linked -1 1/4%	136 1/2	+13	136 1/2	136 1/2
113	112	Index-linked -1 1/2%	139 1/2	+14	139 1/2	139 1/2
114	113	Index-linked -1 3/4%	142 1/2	+15	142 1/2	142 1/2
115	114	Index-linked -2%	145 1/2	+16	145 1/2	145 1/2
116	115	Index-linked -2 1/4%	148 1/2	+17	148 1/2	148 1/2
117	116	Index-linked -2 1/2%	151 1/2	+18	151 1/2	151 1/2
118	117	Index-linked -2 3/4%	154 1/2	+19	154 1/2	154 1/2
119	118	Index-linked -3%	157 1/2	+20	157 1/2	157 1/2
120	119	Index-linked -3 1/4%	160 1/2	+21	160 1/2	160 1/2

MAJOR CHANGES

Company	Price	Change
Standard Chart	535p	(+12p)
Black	430p	(+15p)
Jones Group	275p	(+10p)
Sage Group	474p	(+19p)
Wholesale Pige	237p	(+19p)
Govett	155p	(+14p)
S&U	258p	(+19p)
Hardman Admin	708p	(+18p)
Avon Rubber	435p	(+25p)
Takeda Chem	645p	(+18p)
Liberty Life	786p	(+24p)

RECENT ISSUES

Company	Price	Change
BTR Warrants 1997	109p	-3p
Critchley Group (220)	236	
Foreign & Col PEP Inv Trs 102	100	
Honors Army (90)	33	
Jos Holdings Capital	33	
Jos Holdings Income	90	
Jos Zero Div Pf	108p	
Prime People Warrants	1p	
Second Consolidated Trs	97	-1

CLOSING PRICES PAGE 29

Company	Price	Change
Broken Hill	544p	(+18p)
Br Polythene	400p	(+10p)
FALLS		
SG Warburg	505p	(+15p)
Alfred Lyons	628p	(+15p)
SICF 75	725p	(+25p)
J Sansbury	525p	(+13p)
Grand Met	423p	(+12p)
Guinness	902p	(+23p)
ADT	479p	(+10p)

RIGHTS ISSUES

Company	Price	Change
Tadpole Technology (65)	135	+22
Tepnel Diagnostics (1.2)	190	-3
Wetherspoon (1.1)	181	-1
Property Trust n/p (23)	14	-4
Thibet & Screen n/p (465)	137	

WALL STREET

New York — Wall Street shares were mixed during choppy late-morning trade, with the Dow Jones industrial average advancing and the broad market mostly lower.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

The Dow was up four points at 3,326, while in the broad market declining shares remained ahead of advancing shares by four to three. (Reuters)

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

Traders said the market's trend was still up, even though the secondary tier, which has recently outpaced the Dow, was mostly lower because of profit-taking at the start of the session.

The writing on Rowland's wall

Something had to give at Lomrho. The group may be full of prized mining jewels and many another semi-precious business, but profits have been hit by the recession in anything from British conference business to precious metal prices. Lack of domestic profits has raised the tax charge to ridiculous levels, dividends have been cut savagely after 20 years of progress and cash injections from the sale of businesses have barely kept pace with pressures on the balance sheet. At times like that, a company needs friends. Tiny Rowland, Lomrho's aging presiding genius, never seriously bothered to cultivate them in the financial community and has been better known for his enmities. Companies dominated by a single entrepreneurial figure went heavily out of fashion long before the Cadbury rules codified City thinking, leaving Lomrho out on a limb.

By yesterday morning, Lomrho's market value was languishing under £500 million. The latest flock of potential vultures was gathering, with Tan Sri Lim's Malaysian companies building a 7.3 per cent stake and South Africa's Gencor expressing interest in Western Platinum. Ashanti gold and the group's coal interests should they become available. As the group drew up the accounts for its multitude of businesses for the year to end-September, not usually reported until January, the urgent need for a deal must have become evident.

Sadly, it has long seemed likely that the empire built by Mr Rowland would disintegrate in one way or another without him. In true Rowland style, yesterday's complex rights issue deal brings in another weighty personality while leaving the options open for what will happen in the future. Unlike the summer deal that brought £177 million of Libyan money into Metropole, the latest deal has more clearly been struck from a position of weakness. Mr Rowland will give up his prime position on the share register, which has survived challenges from people who could not back their aggressive intentions. A 15 per cent stake buttressed his dominance in the boardroom, but he will remain a powerful force.

At any other time, such a deal would have provoked an outright break-up bid. Today that is no foregone conclusion, though the likes of Lord Hanson will certainly have done their sums. Mr Rowland's willingness to contemplate fundamental change somewhat changes the odds.

Making choices

The latest bolt from the Accounting Standards Board on complex financial instruments shows the dilemma it faces when going for clarity and comparability in accounts. Hard decisions have to be taken about issues on which there are genuine differences and where accounting policies might legitimately vary in the circumstances of different companies. FRED3, which will form the basis for a new compulsory standard next year, contains several examples. To take one, participating preference shares, part of whose return varies with the ups and downs of trade, are to many people the nearest thing to pure ordinary shares. They will now be treated as non-equity with participation rights being effectively a deduction from what is available for true shareholders.

Clear new rules were needed because flexibility led to exploitation, if not abuse. The letter of accounting possibilities was increasingly treated as more important than the spirit, as ever more ingenious wheezes were dreamed up. In stamping them out, the ASB has had to take more basic choices. As in any community from the kindergarten upwards, if people ignore the spirit of a liberal regime, they soon find themselves working under tougher rules that some may not like.

The time to lay down the law on company practices is when a group decides to float on the stock market writes William Kay

The scale of the shareholder rebellion against Alan Sugar has brought into sharp focus the dangers facing investors who try to cage an entrepreneurial tiger. The 1980s produced a formidable jungle of business tigers who launched companies, floated on the stock market and in most cases were shot between the eyes by the toughest recession in 60 years.

Those whose businesses collapsed, or those who were ousted, like Asil Nadir, John Gurn, John Ashcroft, George Walker, George Davies, Sophie Mirman and Gerald Ratner, merely presented investors with acute versions of the perennial problem of spotting winners and losers before they happen.

But Mr Sugar is in a different and more exclusive category. He, along with Richard Branson, Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber and Harry Goodman, wanted to withdraw from the limelight by going private again. Today, Mr Sugar is expected to find that his plans have failed. Proxy votes counted suggest defeat unless a wave of Sugar supporters arrive in person to vote for him at today's meetings.

Shareholders in Amstrad have, like those before them in Virgin Group, Really Useful Group and International Leisure Group (ILG), been faced with a dilemma: do they let their hero reclaim his business at what many suspect is a rock-bottom price, or do they keep him in his cage in the hope that he will continue to perform for them?

Mr Goodman argued that ILG's profits would be depressed by a forthcoming capital spending programme on new aircraft. In the event, investors made the right decision to let him go, for the recession dragged the company into receivership, owing £380 million.

Sir Andrew and Mr Branson had different reasons for quitting the stock market. They both felt cramped by the requirements to keep a wider body of followers happy with steadily rising profits and a strategy that had at least the patina of logic.

Part of the idea behind floating Really Useful Group had been to put a value on Sir Andrew's copyrights for tax purposes. But he also wanted to diversify the vast cash flow from his creative output into more solid assets.

The aim was to use the quoted paper to assemble a broadly based leisure group that would have been considerably less dependent on Sir Andrew's ability to wake up in the morning and write another smash hit. But, after a few years, he decided that the creative juices still had a good few hits left in them, and he did not particularly want to share the benefit with all and sundry.

"When it came down to it, Andrew wanted all the toys back in his own



Floated away from stock market: Richard Branson, who bought back Virgin after the 1987 crash

attic," said one of Really Useful's financial advisers.

Mr Branson floated Virgin — minus the airline — in 1986, the same year as Sir Andrew made his move with Really Useful. But within 18 months, he was disillusioned. The 1987 crash had helped to take Virgin's share price down from its original 140p to 90p, and brokers and institutions were complaining that they could not understand where the mercurial Mr Branson was taking the business.

In the circumstances, shareholders were left to sell the shares back to Mr Branson for 140p — though they might have thought twice had they known he would sell the music side this year for £550 million.

"It's a high-risk activity, investing in a company run by a strong individual," observed Andrew Threadgold, chief executive of Postal Investment Management, which invests on behalf of the Post Office employee pension funds.

"It's a great ride while it lasts, but often the experience is that you tend to come unstuck in the end," he added. Postal, like the Prudential, has come out against Mr Sugar's attempt to buy back Amstrad. But Mr Threadgold accepts the difficulties that such driven spirits as Mr Sugar suffer in trying to serve outside shareholders.

"It's hard for most entrepreneurs to

convert from running their own show to running a public company," said Mr Threadgold. "Some individuals are unable to recognise the importance of outside interests, and find them an irritant."

Any investor naturally wants the best of both worlds: the excitement and rich rewards of getting in on a market newcomer as it soars through the stratosphere, without the financial headaches that often follow.

Sir Adrian Cadbury's committee on corporate governance has tried to write a set of rules for good behaviour that should avoid the worst excesses. The London Stock Exchange has now incorporated these into its listing

agreement, so that every quoted company will have to comply or explain in its annual report why it is not doing so.

The Cadbury Code places great emphasis on the role of independent non-executive directors, to ensure that the company is performing as it should, and to help resolve conflicts of interest.

Critics of Mr Sugar have pointed out that Amstrad has no non-executive directors, and other strong business characters have either dispensed with such worthies or confined their selections to the mild and malleable. This week, Mr Sugar announced that Amstrad was looking for two non-executive directors.

Sir Adrian admits that his code may deter some would-be tycoons from exposing themselves to the stock market. "We don't want to discourage entrepreneurs," he said, "but if they come to take money from the public they must realise that they are entering into a new series of responsibilities which they have to take seriously. Nevertheless, you will never be able to shut out the determined rogue, because the rules would have to be so strict that it would no longer be possible to run a business."

It is clear that the time to lay down the law is when a company is going public. The directors want something, whether it is paper to use for takeovers, ready access to capital, a



Sugar: search for non-executives

valuation on their holdings for tax purposes or just the fame and glory of a public stage.

So they have every incentive to obey, and indeed they already have to absorb a mass of rules and regulations in connection with their new status, from the Stock Exchange listing agreement to public relations advice to take the family yacht off the books. That is when the budding captain of industry is most likely to be willing to tolerate a few more curbs — and it is also the point where the investing public is likely to be at its most glib, particularly in the full tide of a bull market.

The authorities really have to lean on these people early in the game to get them to adopt structures which Cadbury would recognise, said Mr Threadgold. "Perhaps they should not be allowed to buy back a company they have created."

Brian Winterlood of Winterlood Securities, the leading market-maker in the shares of smaller companies, is understandably more concerned about the distortions caused when a company's founder refuses to release more than a small proportion of the shares onto the market.

"One of the reasons we don't have much liquidity in the shares of these entrepreneurial companies," he explained, "is that maybe only 20 per cent of the share capital is floated and the brokers lay down an understanding that no more should go onto the market."

On the contrary, Mr Winterlood would prefer to see a provision for a second or third tranche of shares to be released, in order to maintain liquidity. This would, however, have to be handled delicately to prevent it from depressing the price.

One anonymous major fund manager argued for a limit on the voting power of a dominant shareholder to, say, 30 per cent, whatever his or her actual stake. This would enable other shareholders to exert a restraining influence. But in the end it is up to investors to be vigilant in protecting their own interests.

Mr Threadgold pointed out that every balanced portfolio should contain a few risky holdings, on the basis that they can lose only 100 per cent of their value while they can multiply many times. "The ideal," he said, "is to have a heavy holding when a company is small and gradually lighten it as the company matures. That is when the problems are likely to arise."

Another golden rule is to pay attention to the directors' shareholdings. That inveterate investor, Jim Slater, sums it up well in his recent book, *The Zulu Principle*: "I like the directors to own a number of shares substantial enough to give them the 'owners' eye, but not so many that they... could at some future stage block a bid. The founder or major shareholder selling a few shares would not worry me — he has to live. If, however, he sold half of his shareholding, that would unnerve me. I love to see more than one director buying, especially those actively involved in the management of the company which pays their salaries."

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

AVM seeks high flier

DISILLUSIONED or redundant brokers, bankers or fund managers are being offered a one-off opportunity to diversify into an alternative career, while remaining in the Square Mile. Air Vice Marshall Mike Dicken, the Lord Mayor's private secretary, is advertising for an assistant who will be paid a salary of up to £36,000 a year. Dicken, 56, says the ideal candidate is likely to be in his or her mid-30s "with energy, vitality and imagination and sufficient knowledge of the City and politics to be able to fulfil our purpose of promoting the City of London." Dicken, who took up his job in September, accepts that if he is to recruit someone from a City financial institution it might necessitate their accepting a pay cut. "But the prestige of working for the Lord Mayor would more than make up for it. It's a great job with lots of variety. I am looking for someone who is on their way up the ladder rather than someone who has already achieved it." The job entails liaison between the mayorality, livery companies and business community as well as day-to-day management of the Mansion House.

Carol's No 1

MOTHER-OF-three Carol Barrazone has landed the top job in equity syndication at BZW and is being hailed by her new employer as the only woman in the City to hold that lofty position. Barrazone, whose children are aged from



two to nine years, will, with effect from next Monday, become equity syndication manager at BZW, responsible for the day-to-day management of the firm's equity syndicate function. "There is a woman in the number two position at Goldman Sachs but as far as we are aware there is no other woman in the City who is overall head of equity syndication," says a delighted BZW spokesman. Barrazone left Swiss Bank Corporation in September, after 13 years. She was head of its investor coverage group, in charge of the origination and distribution of derivatives and structured products to investment institutions in Europe and she also played a key role in the integration of American derivatives firm O'Connor into SBC. Her new position will, she explains, involve less selling to institutions and more co-ordination internally, with clients and with competitors. She decided to leave SBC because she did not agree with reorganisational changes

there. "I was not happy with the politics or the reorganisation," she says.

Major warning

WITH the shadow of both the Edinburgh summit and the Commons announcement about the Prince and Princess of Wales's marriage looming over him, John Major still found time yesterday to crack a joke about the British economy. After his meeting with European employers' and union leaders, the prime minister noted wryly that the last time he had seen them — separately, rather than in yesterday's first-ever joint meeting — was on September 15, the day before Black Wednesday and Britain's withdrawal from the European exchange-rate mechanism. He warned them that he would be watching the markets closely today — and that if anything like that happened again, then that would be the last time they would be let in to see him. Ever.

Bank book

LADBROKES reports a surge of betting interest in the past week on who will succeed Robin Leigh-Pemberton as the next Governor of the Bank of England, with Eddie George and Sir David Scholey emerging as the joint favourites. Other runners include Sir David Walker, Sarah Hogg, and Sir Jeremy Morse, with outside chances, at 20-1, being given to Sir Nicholas Goodison, Lord Alexander and Nigel Lawson.

CAROL LEONARD

Out of step on bosses' pay, perks and pay-offs

From Mr Geoffrey Mills
Sir, Sir Anthony Beaumont-Dark (Business Letters, December 4) is out of step in decrying the pay-offs to directors leaving Trafalgar House, which averaged under a million pounds per man.

For more than a decade the keystone of government policy for stimulating competitive performance has been its resolute perception that big men will only perform better if they are paid and protected better and better. During the same period, the Institute of Directors' over-riding contribution

to improving standards of directorship has been the resolute support of that perception.

In harmony with both, the Cadbury Committee has just produced some "no change, change" proposals which will in practice ensure that there is no disturbance to the established protections. And Pro Nod policies for selecting non-executives, recently publicised, will also assist in preserving this status quo by ensuring the appointment of non-executives who are "more of what we have already got". Meanwhile, working in the USA, Dr

Tony O'Reilly receives \$75 million in one year for just one of his many roles. The message is clear: the pay, perks and pay-offs of British directors are still far too small to be able to stimulate good performance. They must be far bigger and better.

After all, the government, IoD, Cadbury Committee and Pro Nod can't all be confusing each other, can they? Yours faithfully, GEOFFREY MILLS, 43 Whetstone Close, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

Bank managers have turned away from their traditional roles

From Mr David R. Brent
Sir, Following Mr Covins' letter (November 24), and the various published articles and correspondence about the attitudes adopted by banks towards small businesses, I am of the opinion that these days, the high street bank manager is little more than an insurance salesman whose primary function is to sell the various financial products of the bank, rather than take the time to gain an understanding of the real problems facing small businesses, and how these businesses operate and survive. This view is confirmed by several bank managers of my acquaintance who complain that their "traditional" discretionary powers are gradually being taken away from them, and that greater emphasis is being placed on measuring their success and profitability by the number of financial packages that are sold to customers.

When I first started my business (as a sole proprietor of a public relations and advertising consultancy), I wanted to set up a business account and also needed a

small loan of £5,000 in order to buy some computer equipment. I prepared a very detailed business plan outlining my market research, business philosophy etc, and took it round the high street banks. With one exception, they all turned straight to my cash-flow and revenue forecasts, and declared, there and then, that they would be happy to take me on as a business customer and sort out my pensions, investments, insurances, and so on. The one exception was the bank with which I eventually placed my account. I was seen by the branch manager (a more mature person this time), and he took the time to read my plans thoroughly — he, at least, did take a real interest in how I was proposing to achieve my aims. We were able to set up the account and he has since shown great understanding about my business. It is becoming common practice amongst the banks to move business accounts into so-called Regional Business Banking Centres, rather than keep them in the high street branches. In my view, banks

may be financial experts, but generally they seem to be distancing themselves from their business customers, and show very little interest or understanding in the way that businesses operate.

Yours faithfully, DAVID R. BRENT, 22 Howey Lane, Conington, Cheshire.

Chaiset faith

From Mr Anthony Holland
Sir, Your report on December 3 indicates that underwriters are angry at the figures produced by Chaiset and describes them as dangerous. I have no idea of the methodology used by Chaiset, indeed it could be a crystal ball, but I have learned to my cost that their estimates are far more accurate than those produced by my members' agent and the underwriters of the syndicates I am on. My fingers are crossed that this time the market practitioners could be right.

Yours faithfully, ANTHONY HOLLAND, Windlesham Manor, Windlesham, Surrey.

A faster hearing for Lloyd's names

From Mr Valentine Powell
Sir, In her December 8 letter, Marilyn Boorman urges individual names at Lloyd's to pool their experience and come out fighting. She mentions problems with stop-loss recoveries and "compensation for many fundamental issues".

The Association of Lloyd's Members (ALM) has long campaigned for the redress of names' complaints and Lloyd's greater recognition of their rights and interests. The ALM has initiated and supported names' action groups to pursue collective grievances and, in close consultation with Lloyd's, ALM chairman Neil Shaw has recently promoted a number of working parties. Two of these are seeking resolution of the problem of open years and the possible settlement by negotiation of the major disputes between

names and their agents — both issues at the heart of many members' anxieties.

Additionally, the ALM is running a series of conferences across the country to address critical decisions faced by names, as well as a full programme of meetings on topical issues. Members attending these gain considerably from the opportunity to share their experiences with other names, as well as from the formal agenda. Personal stop-loss is a key issue on these occasions, and we are pressing hard for faster processing of names' claims. I invite Mrs Boorman to join the ALM without delay. Yours faithfully, VALENTINE POWELL, Chief Executive, Association of Lloyd's Members, 16 St Mary at Hill, EC3.

Abbey should use £103m for compensation

From Rev. John D. Rawlings
Sir, Lindsay Cook, in the article entitled "Abbey sells unclaimed shares" (December 5) has failed to mention the unfair treatment of those who were second-named in joint accounts at the time and were thus excluded when the shares

were made available. Surely now is the time for the £103 million to be used to put right this injustice.

Yours faithfully, J.D. RAWLINGS, 14 Huddington Glade, Yateley, Camberley, Surrey.

THE TIMES
BUSINESS TO BUSINESS
APPEARS EVERY TUESDAY
TELEPHONE IAN TURNER
071 481 3024
or Fax 071 481 9313

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

[illegible]

Portfolio

From our Portfolio Plus card check your right share price movements on this page. Add them up to give you your overall gain and check against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money. Stand by for the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Ellis & Everard	Chemicals	1.00
2	Sanofi	Pharmaceuticals	1.00
3	Reckon Colm	Industrial	1.00
4	Electromech	Electrical	1.00
5	Greenall's	Breweries	1.00
6	Prininvest	Banking	1.00
7	Hewson Stuart	Building	1.00
8	Ryl Bk Smt	Banking	1.00
9	Levy Sime	Finance	1.00
10	Alphagroup	Industrial	1.00
11	Wespac	Banking	1.00
12	Anglia TV	Leisure	1.00
13	CML Micro	Electrical	1.00
14	Martley	Building	1.00
15	Medeva	Industrial	1.00
16	Glaves	Industrial	1.00
17	Jardine Smt	Finance	1.00
18	Cummins	Chemicals	1.00
19	Refract	Insurance	1.00
20	Amersham	Chemicals	1.00
21	Hipworts	Industrial	1.00
22	Cranwick	Food	1.00
23	Shell	Oil	1.00
24	Britannic	Insurance	1.00
25	Son TV	Leisure	1.00
26	Swire Pacific	Airline	1.00
27	Macklow (A&J)	Property	1.00
28	Graig	Transport	1.00
29	Elkland	Mining	1.00
30	Nth Brk Hill	Mining	1.00
31	Gencom	Mining	1.00
32	Hwyd Wm	Building	1.00
33	Sedgwick	Insurance	1.00
34	Low & Bonar	Industrial	1.00
35	Sero Gp	Business	1.00
36	Harmony	Mining	1.00
37	Multisone	Electrical	1.00
38	E Rand Prop	Mining	1.00
39	Durham	Mining	1.00
40	Weyale	Draperies	1.00

£1,000 MATCH THE SHARES

If you have ticked off your eighth share in our Match The Shares game today, claim your prize by telephoning 0254 53272 between 10.00am and 5.00pm (see the Sunday Times for full details).

There were no valid winners for yesterday's Portfolio Plus prize. The £2,000 will be added to today's competition.

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
100	99.5	Barclays	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	HSBC	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	London	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Midland	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Natwest	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Paragon	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Prininvest	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Reckon Colm	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Sanofi	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Wespac	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0

BREWERIES

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
100	99.5	Adnams	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Beck's	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Carlsberg	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Guinness	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Heineken	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	King	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Miller	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Newcastle	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Reckon Colm	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Sanofi	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0

BUILDING, ROADS

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
100	99.5	Anglia TV	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Britannic	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Cummins	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Gencom	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Hwyd Wm	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Jardine Smt	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Macklow (A&J)	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Medeva	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Refract	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Sero Gp	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0

BUSINESS SERVICES

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
100	99.5	Anglia TV	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Britannic	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Cummins	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Gencom	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Hwyd Wm	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Jardine Smt	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Macklow (A&J)	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Medeva	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Refract	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Sero Gp	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0

ELECTRICITY

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
100	99.5	Anglia TV	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Britannic	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Cummins	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Gencom	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Hwyd Wm	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Jardine Smt	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Macklow (A&J)	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Medeva	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Refract	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Sero Gp	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
100	99.5	Adnams	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Beck's	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Carlsberg	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Guinness	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Heineken	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	King	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Miller	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Newcastle	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Reckon Colm	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Sanofi	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0

DRAPERY, STORES

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
100	99.5	Anglia TV	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Britannic	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Cummins	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Gencom	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Hwyd Wm	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Jardine Smt	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Macklow (A&J)	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Medeva	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Refract	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Sero Gp	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0

ELECTRICALS

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
100	99.5	Anglia TV	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Britannic	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Cummins	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Gencom	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Hwyd Wm	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Jardine Smt	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Macklow (A&J)	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Medeva	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Refract	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Sero Gp	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0

Profit-taking develops

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began November 30. Dealings end December 11. Settlement day December 14. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
100	99.5	Anglia TV	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Britannic	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Cummins	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Gencom	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Hwyd Wm	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Jardine Smt	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Macklow (A&J)	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Medeva	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Refract	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Sero Gp	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
100	99.5	Anglia TV	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Britannic	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Cummins	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Gencom	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Hwyd Wm	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Jardine Smt	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Macklow (A&J)	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Medeva	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Refract	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Sero Gp	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0

FOODS

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
100	99.5	Anglia TV	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Britannic	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Cummins	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Gencom	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Hwyd Wm	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Jardine Smt	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Macklow (A&J)	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Medeva	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Refract	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Sero Gp	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0

HOTELS, CATERERS

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
100	99.5	Anglia TV	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Britannic	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Cummins	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Gencom	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Hwyd Wm	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Jardine Smt	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Macklow (A&J)	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Medeva	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Refract	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Sero Gp	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0

INDUSTRIALS

High	Low	Company	Price	Net	Yld	P/E
100	99.5	Anglia TV	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Britannic	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Cummins	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Gencom	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Hwyd Wm	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Jardine Smt	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Macklow (A&J)	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Medeva	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Refract	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0
100	99.5	Sero Gp	99.5	1.00	4.0	25.0

“The three year warranty confidently offered... is an example other manufacturers will feel bound to follow.”

Find out what's impressing the press.
Ring 0545 708060
to test drive a 1993 Jaguar.

JAGUAR

Artists get down to business

Volunteer business advisers are helping arts organisations to manage with money. One of them will this week win a new award, says Alison Roberts

TS. Eliot, for most of his life a banker, was a case apart. Artist and businessman rarely meet on a professional level, and although the business world is increasingly prepared to support the arts financially when profits allow, the man of the theatre remains something of a dreamy figure, unconcerned with book-keeping and accounting systems.

Three years ago, the Association for Business Sponsorship of the Arts (ABSA) set out to change this, recognising that arts organisations were going to have to manage a tight financial ship in a professional way. It was also obvious that no fringe theatre company or literary society could afford to pay consultancy fees; ABSA, with feet already in the two camps, decided to pair the arts manager with the business executive in a skills transfer exercise.

On Friday, one of the advisers, recruited on a voluntary basis to spend perhaps a couple of hours at the ballet company or sculpture trust every fortnight, will win the new Arthur Andersen award at the annual ABSA prize-giving ceremony, this year held in association with *The Times*. Does this official blessing mean that the scheme has been a success? And what can arts organisations, often run on a collective, perhaps haphazard way in the past, learn from people who talk a completely different language of profit and loss, finance and planning?

Kath Abrahams, general manager at the Bloomsbury Theatre, in London, says that her business adviser provided an outside ear and a fresh eye.

The theatre's staff structure needed a rethink: although the Bloomsbury employs only 11 full-time workers, there was scope for a complete job description rewrite in a system that seemed to isolate its management from the stage-floor.

"I was worried that if an individual left the theatre they would take all their skills with them and no one else would know how to do that particular job," Ms Abrahams says. "Caroline Whatham, the business adviser, and I worked on all the weak links, so that now jobs are far more inter-linked. We did little things like teach more of the staff how to work the box office computer, taught staff about the marketing department and revised the graduate trainee course. I was left to do most of the work, which was good, and Caroline acted as a catalyst." The two women met over the course of about five months — the adviser gave the theatre manager "homework" and monitored progress.

The project was not intended to produce immediate financial benefits. "I always watched every penny anyway," Ms Abrahams says. But she believes the balance sheet will look healthier in the long run. "It has made me feel much more secure about what I am doing, and it has given us more energy for the future and made me more marketable. The brilliant thing was that Caroline didn't want to step on my toes. I had requested her help."

The Bloomsbury theatre is fairly large, seating 500 people and with a budget of about £250,000. Sometimes, arts organisations in search of help are running on much smaller budgets; to make something work with so little cash, and to make a silk purse from a potential pig's ear, is the challenge.

Stephen Clarke, a senior manager at Coopers & Lybrand, took a trainee with him to the Opera Factory and, altogether, the time voluntarily given to the arts company cost £10,000 — more than many arts groups turn over in a year.

The Opera Factory, an offshoot from the London Sinfonietta, was a brand new enterprise desperately needing professional advice. Mr Clarke created an accounting system for the company from scratch. "We went right through the process, with them — from writing a cheque to inputting it into the accounts and working out the total expenditure."

He helped the company to choose computer software and, without implying that the arts group were technophobic, wrote an idiot's guide to computer use. Mr Clarke describes himself as not a particularly enthusiastic arts lover, although a theatre



Stage partnership: the Opera Factory has been advised by Coopers & Lybrand

and opera-goer. He took on the Opera Factory as a professional challenge and as a learning experience.

"Personally, what do you get out of it? You talk to people who are in a completely different business environment. It is about as far removed as you can get from dealing with multinationals. You work with the company throughout the project in great depth and see it right through to the end."

Coopers & Lybrand also had its name printed on Opera Factory leaflets throughout the season, incidentally. In that sense, the *Business in the Arts*

scheme works as a form of sponsorship, although it does not cost the firm anything. In fact, David Hall, who helps run the ABSA scheme, believes that employees are rejuvenated by being part of an arts organisation, for however short a period.

The scheme is not operational across the whole country yet, but affiliate offices are branching out from London. Those in Southampton, Birmingham and Merseyside all manage similar placement operations. Nationwide, there are 70 business and arts pairings currently beaver away, since the scheme's inception. 200 matches have been made, and the numbers are doubling every two years. Advisers come from big and small companies and some, such as Ms Whatham, are freelance. Some of the big scalps have come from IBM, AT&T, Grant Thornton and ICI Investments.

If teaching someone how to use a spreadsheet sounds like small beer, ABSA will say it is best to remember that large projects have small beginnings. That spreadsheet may have played a vital part in the marvellous production of *Otello*, the wonderful modernist exhibition or the widely acclaimed literature festival.

Shortlisted candidates for the Arthur Andersen award are Michael Dunnigan, Account Director, The Sales Machine (UK), for his work on marketing with VOLTAIRE, the London-based contemporary ballet company. Andrew Hadjiofi, Senior negotiator, BP Exploration, for his work on a long-term plan with the Scottish Sculpture Trust.

Iain Pelling, Executive consultant, KPMG Peat Marwick, for his work on finance and planning with Kaboodle Productions and the Theatre Resource Centre, both based in Liverpool. Norman Rush, Business service manager, IBM, for his work on a development plan with Geese Theatre Company, based in Birmingham. Caroline Whatham, Director, Caroline Whatham Associates, for her work on organisational structure with London's Bloomsbury Theatre.

David Tweedie, ASB chairman, said: "All users of accounts should benefit from the greater clarity and certainty that the proposals provide."

The ASB proposes stripping various instruments of equity status and breaking down the shareholders' funds remaining between equity and non-equity. A share will not count as equity where any of its rights to dividends or redemption are for a limited amount unrelated to a company's assets, profits or dividends.

As a result, the convertible bond and its sophisticated offspring, the convertible capital bond, originally designed by SG Warburg, the investment house, to act as debt for tax purposes and equity for accounting purposes, have lost their equity status. Companies affected by the change include British Airways, BICC and Reckitt & Colman, which in its latest accounts, for the year to January 4, 1992, shows £200 million of bonds as part of total net assets of £719.61 million. BICC's accounts show its £177 million convertible capital bond as treated as equity, although disclosed as a separate item below shareholders' funds of £374 million. In all three cases the bonds will, under the new rules, have to appear as liabilities. BICC is

Rule changes will make levels of gearing soar

By Sarah Bagnall

SEVERAL prominent companies will see loan gearing levels soar as a result of the Accounting Standards Board's latest exposure draft (ED), which puts a stop to finance directors bolstering shareholders' funds by treating various hybrid financial instruments as equity on the balance sheet. Published today, Financial Reporting Exposure Draft 3 — *Accounting for Capital Instruments* — aims to clear up the complex area of the distinction between debt and equity. In the process, it affects a mass of quasi-equity instruments, such as auction market preferred shares (Amps), convertible capital bonds and deep discount bonds. Preference shares will count as non-equity, even when they have participation rights.

David Tweedie, ASB chairman, said: "All users of accounts should benefit from the greater clarity and certainty that the proposals provide."

The ASB proposes stripping various instruments of equity status and breaking down the shareholders' funds remaining between equity and non-equity. A share will not count as equity where any of its rights to dividends or redemption are for a limited amount unrelated to a company's assets, profits or dividends.

As a result, the convertible bond and its sophisticated offspring, the convertible capital bond, originally designed by SG Warburg, the investment house, to act as debt for tax purposes and equity for accounting purposes, have lost their equity status. Companies affected by the change include British Airways, BICC and Reckitt & Colman, which in its latest accounts, for the year to January 4, 1992, shows £200 million of bonds as part of total net assets of £719.61 million. BICC's accounts show its £177 million convertible capital bond as treated as equity, although disclosed as a separate item below shareholders' funds of £374 million. In all three cases the bonds will, under the new rules, have to appear as liabilities. BICC is

also affected by the ASB decision that preference shares issued by a subsidiary but guaranteed by the parent company should be treated as debt. BICC's accounts show that, of £134 million of minority interest, £33 million is guaranteed redeemable preference capital that the ED says should be reclassified as debt.

Amps, which regularly have their return varied through an auction process, fall into the new category of "non-equity shares". As a result, a reworking of BET's latest balance sheet would result in equity being cut by £287 million, leaving £114 million. Since then, however, BET has redeemed its Amps. Perkins Foods and Ramens have non-equity shares but the amounts are not identifiable from the respective accounts.

The ASB has changed its stance slightly on when an instrument can be classed as long-term debt. After representations from industry, in response to the discussion paper preceding the exposure draft, the ASB has said a one-year loan with an agreement with the lender to extend the maturity on the same terms can be classed as long-term debt. But this still excludes commercial paper programmes, which some firms, including First Leisure Corporation, have treated as long-term debt on their balance sheets. The ASB invites comments on the ED by March 15.



Tweedie: more clarity

071 481 1066

ACCOUNTANCY & FINANCE

FAX 071-481 9313

DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

for the Institute of Dental Surgery

(Eastman Dental Hospital) £36-£40,000 plus PRP

The Institute of Dental Surgery and Eastman Dental Hospital works as a single entity providing the best specialist treatment, leading the way in advanced research and using their authority as an international centre of excellence to influence debate and policy in dentistry. This challenging executive role in the organisation will be available from April 1993.

The Postholder Will:-

- ★ play a leading role in the administrative function of the Institute, acting as company secretary
- ★ manage the overall finance function (combined expenditure £14 million) and prepare for the possibility of the hospital becoming an NHS Trust in 1994.
- ★ make a major contribution to the management and future direction of the organisation.

You Will Need:-

- ★ a record of proactive financial management and a recognised financial qualification.
- ★ proven leadership skills
- ★ good interpersonal skills to enable you to liaise at all levels both within and outside the organisation.

It is also likely you will be seeking to obtain a general management position in the future.

For an informal discussion of the role please contact Professor G.B. Winter, Dean on 071-915 1038.

Application is by CV to the address below from which further details may also be obtained.

Personnel Department, 256 Grays Inn Road, London WC1X 8LD. Telephone 071-915 1003.

Closing date for applications:- 29th, December.

CORPORATE RECOVERY & TAXATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR 1993

Devies Kidd specialises in the recruitment of staff to the Chartered Accountancy profession. Our clients range from small and independent firms to National and International practices.

We are currently handling several career openings for Insolvency, Corporate Recovery and Tax Specialists with relevant experience gained with a Chartered Accountancy firm. Urgent vacancies include:-

CORPORATE RECOVERY & INSOLVENCY

Bristol	INSOLVENCY SENIOR	TO £22,000
Cambridge	INSOLVENCY PROFESSIONAL	£15-35,000
Cardiff	INSOLVENCY SUPERVISOR	£22,000-£40,000
Cardiff	INSOLVENCY ADMINISTRATOR	£18-18,000
Cardiff	RECEIVERSHIP MANAGER	£28-35,000 + Car
Cardiff	CORPORATE RECOVERY MANAGER	TO £28,000 + Car
Cardiff	INSOLVENCY SENIOR	TO £28,000
Cardiff	INSOLVENCY ADMINISTRATOR	£15-15,000
Cardiff	LIQUIDATIONS A.M.	£20,000
Cardiff	LIQUIDATIONS JUNIOR	£10,000
Cardiff	INSOLVENCY SENIOR	£22-22,000
Cardiff	LIQUIDATIONS MANAGER	£20,000
Cardiff	CORPORATE RECOVERY SENIOR MANAGER	£25,000 + Car
Cardiff	INSOLVENCY MANAGER	£24-45,000 + Car
Cardiff	SET UP SITUATION	£20-25,000 + Car
Cardiff	RECEIVERSHIP/PROBATION SENIOR	TO £25,000
Cardiff	LIQUIDATIONS A.M.	£20-25,000
Cardiff	SENIOR CASHIER	TO £21,000
Cardiff	CASHIER	£14-15,000
Cardiff	BANKRUPTCY/LIQUIDATIONS SENIOR	£25-30,000
Cardiff	INSOLVENCY SENIOR	£25-30,000
Cardiff	INSOLVENCY SENIOR	£25-30,000

TAXATION

Devon	TAX ASSISTANT	£18-22,000
Kent	MIXED TAX MANAGER	£25,000+Car
London	SNR CORPORATE TAX MANAGER (CITY)	£30-45,000
London	SAVINGS TAX MANAGER	TO £28,000 + Car
London	VAT CONSULTANTS	£18-45,000
London	CORPORATE TAX JUNIOR MANAGER (RYS PO)	TO £18,000 + Car
London	CORPORATE TAX SENIOR	£25-30,000
Nationwide	ADVANCED TAXPAYER (2-3M UCC)	£25,000-14,000
North West	SENIOR MANAGER	TO £25,000
Reading	CORPORATE TAX ASSISTANT	£15,000
West Midlands	VAT SUPERVISOR	£23,000

For further information on these or other vacancies please contact JEFF DAVIES or CHRISTOPHER KIDD on 071-353 4212 (Days) or 071-479 8140/081-081 1840 (Evenings & Weekends). Alternatively fax your CV to them on 071-353 0612 or send it to DAVIES KIDD, WILTON HOUSE, 1 TEMPLE AVENUE, VICTORIA GROUNDS, LONDON EC4Y 0HA.

DAVIES KIDD
Public Practice Recruitment Specialists

THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR

BOARD OF EDUCATION

(£20,000 plus interest-free car loan)

The Diocesan Board of Education is seeking a Financial Administrator to join the Education Team.

The Board of Education is responsible for supplying a financial service to all Church Schools in the Diocese and for the support of parish education in children's and youth work.

Reporting directly to the Director of Education and his deputy, you will be responsible for financial and property management and the operation of educational trusts. In addition you will advise the Board in developing specific areas of professional support for schools in the light of the new Education Acts.

Strong financial and management skills together with computer expertise are essential. An appropriate qualification in accountancy and/or business management would be an advantage. An interest in education matters and commitment to the Church in modern society are also required.

The Diocese covers the area of West Kent and the London Boroughs of Bromley and Bexley.

For detailed job description and application form please write or telephone the Diocesan Office, St Nicholas Church, Rochester ME1 1SL Tel 0634-850333.

Completed application forms and CV are required to be returned by 8th January 1993.

A leading American investment banking and stockbroking company, is seeking to employ a U.S. Treasury Trader with considerable experience in the U.S. Treasury Market. Candidates must be fully familiar with U.S. derivative products and be able to accommodate a substantial and growing customer base. Prior experience at an international, and well established, investment bank is essential. Interested candidates should send their C.V. to:-

Box No 0237

Financial Controller

Surrey £25,000 + Car

Our client, a multi site Motor Dealership, is in excess of £35 million, is seeking an experienced, proactive and systems orientated accountant, age 25-35, to head up a large accounts dept. Essential qualities include Motor Trade background, excellent team management skills and the commercial acumen to make a positive impact on future success, growth and development.

Call Sally Stovell or Shirley Jones at Selected Accounts Personnel (081) 466 1616 (24 Hrs, R.Com)

ACCOUNTS ASSISTANT

A challenging opportunity in a busy W9 Property Management Company for an enthusiastic ambitious individual reporting to accountant. Must be able to deal with all aspects of property accounting. Salary AAE.

Apply with full details to 125 Shirland Road, Maiden Vale, London W9. Ref RSV.

ACCOUNTANT

£25,000 pa

Central London Interi Co seek recently qualified ACA from top 20 C.A. Max 27 years of age & 3 years in Audit essential.

Tel 081-946 1868

West Accounting Widdowson

PROJECT MANAGER

WEST LONDON

£22-24,000 (Incl. overtime) multi discipline project management experience essential. Five months on accounting experience & ACCA/CPA not qualifications. Contact: Jane Smith, Accountancy Additions 144 High Street, Chislehurst, Essex S21 1JY. Tel 0753 550808

PART-TIME ACCOUNTANT/ADMINISTRATOR

West London £12-15

hours per week to assist Charities with their private group of companies and events. Part time. Varied work. Based near Victoria. Self person with family commitments. Telephone (071) 730 5873.



BRITISH POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL FEDERATION (University of London)

BUSINESS MANAGER

Applications are invited for the post of Business Manager to the Dean of Postgraduate Medicine (South East Thames). This new post is concerned with budgetary implications and business management of the Dean's University-held budget for postgraduate medical and dental education (£2.1 million) and to assist with the amplification of the regionally-held budget for hospital-based educational activity (currently £3.2 million). Particular tasks will include clarification of the actual current cost of PGME in South East Thames and setting, with the Dean of Postgraduate Medicine and SETRA Officers, realistic and supportable budget heads and the monitoring of these.

The postholder will be expected to be experienced in financial and budgetary controls and in setting and achieving targets of performance against budgets.

The appointment, initially, will be for a three year period with an annual review. The salary will be in accordance with University of London non-clinical academic scales in the range £25,969 through £31,726 per annum, plus a London allowance of £2,133.96. The starting point will be dependent upon age, qualifications.

Applications should be made in writing, with an accompanying curriculum vitae and the names of two referees, to the Assistant Federation Secretary, British Postgraduate Medical Federation, 33 Millman Street, London WC1N 3EL. A copy of the job description will be made available upon request. (071) 831 6222 ext 152.

The closing date for applications is 4 January, 1993.

THE TIMES

Accountancy & Finance

Accountancy and Finance Appointments appears every Thursday in The Times 2

The Times is the most cost effective newspaper to reach qualified accountants aged 25-44 ★

To advertise your vacancy call the Recruitment Team on 071 481 1066.

★ Source NRS
July 1992-June 1992

ALL BOX NUMBER REPLIES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:

BOX No: —
C/o The Times
Newspapers,
P.O. BOX 484,
Virginia Street,
London E1 9DD

ACCOUNT MANAGER CREDIT REFERENCING SYSTEMS

A market leader in the Credit Reference sector seeks a sales professional (age 25-35) to deal with, and create, major accounts.

Experience of selling to Banks, Building Societies and Financial Institutions at senior level is essential.

Applicants must be educated to at least 'A' level standard and live in the South East (within daily travelling distance from London).

Basic up to £24k + O.T.E. (circa 20% of first year's earnings) + Car + Excellent benefits.

Call: 0753 553377 Fax: 0753 552253

OPTIMUM POTENTIAL (Rec Cons)
Hartleys Yard, Church Lane, Wexham, Berkshire, SL3 6LD

071 481 1066

ACCOUNTANCY

Ripples of hope on liability

By ANDREW COLOUGHON

EXPOSURE of auditors to litigation has become the most serious problem facing accountancy firms in the Anglo-Saxon economies. In America, the profession is estimated to face aggregate claims for damages of about \$30 billion. In Australia, an A\$1.1 billion claim has been made against auditors after the collapse of a single group of companies.

Claims of this size are way beyond the limits of insurance cover. If the courts backed any of these mega-claims, a big firm could collapse, bringing chaos in the business extending to other countries. In some parts of America, auditors refuse to take on some classes of client because of high risks of subsequent litigation.

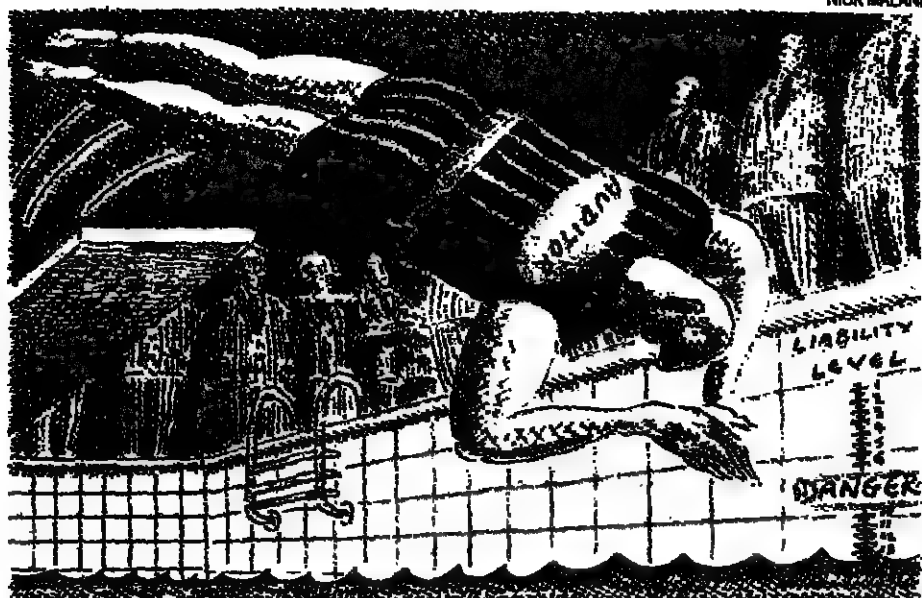
Australia may just provide the first glimmer of hope. In 1988, someone was injured diving into a municipal pool in New South Wales because the water was too shallow. He successfully sued the local authority. This pushed the NSW state government to introduce a Professional Standards Bill.

If passed, it will effectively cap the liability of local authorities and of professionals such as accountants. The federal attorney general is investigating whether such an approach could be applied

throughout Australia. If so, it could be the start of a rational solution in other countries to the open-ended liability of accountants, which is made worse by the legal concept of joint and several liability. This holds that where there are several defendants to a damage suit, any one is potentially liable to pay all damages awarded, irrespective of relative contributions to the tort. Accountancy firms are highly vulnerable after the collapse of a company or bankruptcy of its directors.

Thanks to professional indemnity insurance, only they are likely to have pockets deep enough to be worth picking by aggrieved parties and their lawyers. In few such cases does negligence by accountancy firms contribute greatly to the loss claimed by third parties.

One or two sensible legal judgments have emerged, despite the joint and several concept. In the AWA case, an Australian company claimed against its auditors for failing to report on the company's inadequate controls on foreign exchange operations. The supreme court in New South Wales concluded this year the engagement of the auditor by the company did not absolve it from a responsibility to look



after its own interests. It asked: "Why should the negligent auditor be exposed to payment of the whole of the loss where much of the damage lies at the door of senior management of the plaintiff?" The financial apportionment of liability in this case should be determined next year. With luck, it will confirm a company's management and directors bear the greatest responsibility for its financial health.

A California Supreme Court decision in the Osborne case

made clear auditors were only liable to their clients and known users of the financial statements they audit, not to third party investors. Otherwise auditors face claims disproportionate to fault, which could not "fairly be justified on moral, ethical or economic grounds". These judgments contrast with the alarming situation highlighted in a rare joint paper by the Big Six US firms about the liability crisis there. This identifies a system of abuse in which plaintiffs

lawyers frequently settle with prime culprits, who do not have a defence or much money, at a fraction of what they should pay, then pursue professionals for the balance, irrespective of their degree of culpability.

In 1991 US firms spent 9 per cent of auditing and accounting revenue defending and settling lawsuits. The firms argue that the bad effects on auditing, financial reporting and capital markets are already evident and the joint and several concept imposes "a tort tax" on US business.

There are few votes for legislators in reforms to help auditors. They may need to agree a liability limit with each client, for the good of business as a whole.

The public may look for *quid pro quo*: more effective ways for auditors to provide timely warning of companies' future problems, or other extensions of their responsibilities. The Auditing Practices Board green paper suggests just such a wider role for audit, but that would not be feasible if it merely increased vulnerability to litigation.

The author is secretary of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

Mrs Antrobus would have felt quite at home

ANYONE who wanted to see an example of how the present council of the English ICA is almost incapable of producing a swift and speedy decision on anything should have popped into the council chamber last week.

Had you picked up an agenda and taken a look at the main and meatiest item you would have applauded the recommendations which were laid out for all to see. At last the council was getting down to the heart of opening up the institute's procedures to the public. The issue was the central one for a profession — the sometimes embarrassing but always vital procedure of disciplining members who have transgressed the profession's rules.

Everyone on council knows how important it is. When you have been under attack for so long for appearing to ignore the public interest something like opening up the disciplinary procedure will win many plus points.

The first recommendation before council was the matter of "giving support to fuller reporting of disciplinary cases". As the rest of the documentation made clear, "at present it is often difficult to get a clear picture of the case from brief reports which merely recite the terms of formal complaints which have been found proved and details of the orders made". Anyone who has ploughed through the arcane announcements of the disciplinary committee knows full well that "opaque" would be a mild criticism of them. As it happened a fuller statement on one particular public interest case had been issued the week before. This related to the proceedings against Michael Jordan and Richard Stone of Coopers & Lybrand over alleged conflict of interest in taking on the Poly

Peck administration. This stated plainly both men had been fined the maximum possible amount and both had "failed without good reason" to follow the relevant ethical guidance.

It also, for the first time, provided extracts from the chairman's summing up. This revealed the conflict of interest "would have been apparent to you at an early stage had you taken proper steps to consider the position" and "there has been no satisfactory explanation" for the information which they had sent before the court prior to their appointment as administrators "being so inadequate".

This is precisely the sort of information the public ought to be learning when members of the profession receive a dressing-down from their peers. The second recommendation was

that hearings should be open to the public if the accused requests it or if "the case involves a matter of public concern". For a committee which sought to exclude one of its members from the Jordan and Stone hearings this is brave stuff. Needless to say, this was where the council's feet began to grow cold.

The result was a labyrinthine debate of counter-amendment after counter-amendment and confusion on confusion. At one point what had been a good, though lengthy, speech from Douglas Lambias was interrupted on a point of order from the vice-chairman of the Conservative party, Tim Smith wanted to know if the president knew of any procedural device which would curtail "a long, tedious and self-indulgent speech". The president did not and said he was himself enjoying it, and so it should continue.

In the end an amendment agreeing to proceed with the first recommendation but put the second on ice until the effect of the first could be analysed was passed. This may seem mild. But is devastating. To open hearings to the public requires a change to the by-laws. This can only be done at a June extraordinary meeting and, if passed, then goes to the Privy Council for ratification. So the effect of a seemingly innocuous and cautious amendment means public hearings are unlikely to become reality before 1995. As one council member remarked later, the decision-making process reminds you of wading through four-foot snowdrifts.

This would be all very well if we were dealing with the parish council proceedings in *The Archers* and the biggest worry was Mrs Antrobus' amnesia over the proofs of the church magazine. But we are not. We are dealing with Europe's biggest professional accounting body. Next month the council meeting forms part of a three-day council conference. As a matter of great urgency the council should dust down last year's rejected Green report on the institute's structure and implement it forthwith. Never mind if it reforms it out of existence by passing power to a slimmer executive council while it becomes a twice-yearly advisory conference. The point is not to have a bit of a chat over amendments, it is to give the public, and other members of the profession, some measure of confidence in the profession's actions.

The author is Associate Editor of Accountancy Age



ROBERT BRUCE

Swinson docks at Stoy

SIX months after being ousted as managing partner of Binder Hamlyn, and after talking to a dozen firms and considering career offers outside the profession, reforming ICAEW stalwart Chris Swinson has found a new home as a partner at Stoy Hayward, which is steadily restoring its image after a series of client embarrasements. Swinson, long in demand as an expert court witness, will help build up Stoy's litigation support department when he joins on January 1. Paul Hipps, senior partner at Stoy, stresses that the firm will support Swinson's work for

the profession. He is already an FRC member, chairs the ICAEW's financial reporting group and must be a strong future candidate for the ICAEW presidency, although he missed out in the first election on the ladder and will not try again next spring. Meanwhile, he still has a writ out against Binder, technically seeking dissolution of the national and London partnerships as well as damages. Swinson says he viewed having to go that far "with considerable distaste and regret" and hopes to clear up the affair as soon as possible.

Own goal

HOW embarrassing. No sooner had Coopers & Lybrand been chosen by the European Community to review the impact of EC policy and legislation on sport than it was thrashed 2-1 at volleyball by a team of Brussels Eurocrats. "We were going to play them at football but found they had three professional footballers in their team," says Frank McFadden of the firm's EC advisory unit in Brussels. "We had a 6ft 10ins German and still lost." McFadden, a rugby player, aims to have the

last laugh. "We'll play them at football, then rugby — anything until we win." And the subject of the firm's initial pilot study? Basketball.

A MAN on his death-bed asks his priest, his solicitor and his accountant to put £10,000 each in his grave so that he has something to get him started the next time round. At the funeral, the priest counts out £8,500. "Church repairs," he says sheepishly. "He won't miss it." The solicitor counts out £5,000. "Problems at work," he mutters. "He won't know." The accountant writes out a cheque.

JON ASHWORTH

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

ACCOUNTANCY & FINANCE

071 481 1066

FAX 071-481 9313

INSOLVENCY PARTNER

Thames Valley to £80,000 + car
This highly profitable medium sized practice plans to almost double in size within the next 2-3 years. As part of this programme of development, the insolvency department, which is currently overseen by three general practice partners, will require a full time specialist partner. You will have extensive experience of investigations, receivership and liquidations, as well as the initiative and commercial acumen to run the operation autonomously.

AUDIT MANAGER

East Anglia £25,000
A qualified ACA is required by the branch office of this nationally ranked medium sized firm. You will be responsible for a portfolio of owner managed businesses and supervise a team of six staff. You will ideally be aged 27-33, have strong technical audit ability, plus experience of preparing finance proposals and business plans. Effective interpersonal skills will be important in assisting with business development.

CORPORATE FINANCE MANAGER

London/Eastern Europe £35,000 + Car
An increasing demand for this large firm's expertise in handling privatisations and management buy-outs in Eastern Europe has led to the need for several corporate finance specialists. You will be a qualified ACA with a minimum of 2 years' POE and ideally speak Polish, German, Hungarian or Russian. The roles will be based overseas or involve a high percentage of travel.

GENERAL PRACTICE SUPERVISOR

South Coast £22,000
This successful practice was formed by two commercially minded ex 'big-6' Partners in the early 1980s and has continued to attract new business at an impressive rate. They seek a young ACA, with a good academic record, to supervise audit assignments and assist partners with ad-hoc projects. Computer literacy plus experience of financial modelling would be highly advantageous.

For further details contact Fiona Cox at the address below or telephone 071-936 2601 (fax 071-936 2655).

YOU COULDN'T TALK TO BETTER QUALIFIED PEOPLE

BARCLAY SIMPSON

HAMILTON HOUSE, 1 TEMPLE AVENUE, VICTORIA EMBANKMENT, LONDON EC4Y 0EA

071-936 2601

GENERAL MANAGER - FINANCE

Oxon

to £35,000 + Benefits



This specialist supplier of food materials has undergone substantial growth and in 1992 it gained a Queens Award for export achievement. The current expansion programme will result in both Operating Directors spending an increasing amount of time away from the HQ base.

A requirement has therefore arisen, for a financially orientated General Manager. Qualified in an accountancy discipline, the General Manager will be required to look after the day-to-day finance function, and management of the Company in the absence of the Directors. Responsibilities will cover overseeing financial and management accounting, including budgeting, forecasting and the upgrading of an integrated computer system. Great emphasis will be placed upon effective cash management. There will be travel to Europe, as the Company explores potential sites, and the US to visit the American Parent Company.

The Company is committed to Total Quality Management and is currently embarking upon BS5750 which should be completed by February of next year. The Company not only offers an attractive salary and comprehensive package, but also the potential to grow within the group. Interested candidates should contact Stuart Blake on 0734 391003 or write to him at the address below.

HARRISON & WILLIS

FINANCIAL & LEGAL RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

15 Station Road, Reading, Berks RG1 1LG. Fax: 0734 393331

LONDON • READING • GUILDFORD • ST ALBANS • BRISTOL • BIRMINGHAM

FINANCIAL CONTROLLER / COMPANY SECRETARY

Age 30-45. required for Motor Industry Fully qualified

Experience of IBM 36 and RS 6000 preferable. Reside within 20 miles of Watford. Excellent salary and car. Have you director potential? Are you proactive, hands-on, commercially orientated?

If so send CV, and brief resume of what you can offer this company.

Contact: J R Allen Managing Director Vales Truck Centre Ltd Tolpits Lane, Watford WD1 8QP

FINANCE MANAGER CANTERBURY, KENT

Are you seeking a change from industry or commerce but still want a challenging and fulfilling role?

If so, are you:

- * Fully conversant with the financial and management accounting requirements of a dynamic medium-sized business employing 450 staff?
- * Able to lead, develop, and motivate an accounts team of seven staff?
- * Able to relate to non-financial departmental managers with a wide range of disciplines and needs?
- * Used to working to deadlines?
- * Totally familiar with business and PC-based computer systems?
- * Hard-working and committed, and willing to work in a 'community' rather than just in a 'job'?
- * Able to demonstrate comprehensive experience and achievement of all the above?
- * Seeking a commensurate and attractive reward package?

Please send a typed CV, details of two referees, and a handwritten covering letter showing how you fulfill the requirements of the position to:

The Bursar, The King's School, 25 The Precincts, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2ES.

Further details and a prospectus may be obtained by telephoning 0227 475500.

Closing date for applications: 24th December.

QUALIFIED AUDITORS

SRO-experienced

QUALIFIED ACCOUNTANTS

EXPER OFFICE CLERKS

required for our services to eastern European companies. Successful applicants will be based in Heidelberg and work as members of a team. Extensive travel into the east of Germany/Europe. Basic German is required. Accommodation for the initial period provided as part of a combined package. Please send Application with recent photograph and CV to:

UW Marketing AG, PO Box 105745 D-W-6900 Heidelberg Germany.

FRENCH SPEAKING QUALIFIED FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

E28-E32K + CAR BIRMINGHAM

A vacancy has arisen within a subsidiary of a forthright medium sized distribution company for a Financial Controller to take complete control of the entire financial and management accounting functions. Success is essential for you to succeed within this group as you will be able to contribute fully to the forward planning and restructuring process. Responsibilities include European offices & head office. French is essential. You will be qualified, aged 27-35 with an excellent academic and commercial track record. Call Carol Connolly at Selected Accounts Personnel on 081 488 1816 (24 hrs RCons)

PA TO PARTNER CHARTERED ACCT

£22,000-£25,000 CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS W4

This is a key position. The candidate will be responsible for all aspects of the PA's duties to the partner. The successful candidate will be a well-organized, efficient, and motivated individual. If you have several years' experience in a similar role and feel you can offer the above, please send your CV to: CONTACT: BOOTH FRANKS ON 081-488 1816 (24 hrs RCons) Strictly no agencies.

THORN EMI Electronics

MERCHANT BANKING INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONAL REVIEW

LONDON £28,000 + MORTGAGE SUBSIDY

Our client is a highly respected US investment bank with a strong international presence and a solid record for innovation.

Following recent restructuring and the promotion of team members to Controlling positions, they now require additional accountants for their International Review Division.

Essentially project based, key responsibilities will include the review of top level controls, key profit centres and operating procedures, concentrating on treasury and derivative products and private and investment banking.

Applicants should be recently qualified ACA, aged 28 and from a top firm. Exposure to treasury banking products is highly desirable and fluency in a second European language would be useful but not essential. Progression to a Controlling position is likely within 18 months to two years.

For further information, please call David Chelley on 0444 416636 or write to the address below.

HEATHFIELD HARGREAVES

Chesser House, 6 Boken Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH16 1BB

Tel: 0444 416636 Fax: 0444 416002

ACCOUNTANTS QUALIFIED 2 YRS POE JUNIOR 1 YR TRAINED

THE FIRM OF PRAGER AND FENTON WITH OFFICES IN NEW YORK, LOS ANGELES AND LONDON PROVIDING ACCOUNTING, TAXATION, AUDITING AND ROYALTY INVESTIGATION SERVICES IS CURRENTLY SEEKING MOTIVATED PROFESSIONALS WITH AUDIT AND TAXATION KNOWLEDGE TO JOIN THE LONDON OFFICE.

PLEASE FORWARD YOUR CV WITH SALARY REQUIREMENTS TO: NICKY COLE, PRAGER AND FENTON, MIDWAY HOUSE, 27/29 CURSOR STREET, LONDON, EC4A 1LT.

STRICTLY NO AGENCIES

Shirley Bassey: the singer was the subject of flowery tributes at an Albert Hall concert

ARTS

Mack is back, on the same old track

Saint reborn from the ashes

Jeane (Renée Falconetti) has her hair cut before being executed

Irek may step out with Bolshoi again

From the Writer of "MY LEFT FOOT" and
the Director of "ENCHANTED APRIL"

GABRIEL BYRNE

Into The West

Where myth and
magic walk the earth.

ELLEN BARKIN

WOLFE FILMS PRESENTS AN ANIMATED FILM BY GABRIEL BYRNE
FROM THE SCREENPLAY BY GABRIEL BYRNE AND JAMES L. BRADY
AN ANIMATED FILM BY GABRIEL BYRNE

GABRIEL BYRNE, PHILIP THE VESPER, ILLUMINATIONS

ILLUMINATIONS BY GABRIEL BYRNE AND JAMES L. BRADY

Produced by Douglas (JOHN) L. BRADY, Editor (JOHN) L. BRADY, Director of Photography (JOHN) L. BRADY
Cinematography (JOHN) L. BRADY, Special Effects (JOHN) L. BRADY, Production Designers (JOHN) L. BRADY
and (JOHN) L. BRADY, Music by (JOHN) L. BRADY, Costumes by (JOHN) L. BRADY
Production Designer (JOHN) L. BRADY, Editor (JOHN) L. BRADY
Production Designer (JOHN) L. BRADY and (JOHN) L. BRADY


Revised 1992 12/17/92

**FROM FRIDAY
DEC. 11**

ODEON

HAYMARKET
ADULTS 12+ Average 12+ Not 12+ Not
21 Film Information 1992 12/17/92

*and in major cities
throughout the U.K.*



Irek Mukhamedov: the chance of Bolshoi reunion

Irek Mukhamedov: the chance of Bolshoi reunion

THEATRE: Benedict Nightingale on a bewildering and bleak vision of New York low life

A walk on the very wild side

Weldon Rising
Theatre Upstairs
Royal Court

YOUNG people should think twice before taking their parents to see Phyllis Nagy's play. It contains loud rock 'n' roll, some fairly robust lesbian lovemaking, a male prostitute who touts for custom in a ballroom on New York's West Side Highway, and what appears to be the end of the world. Fortunately, it is also short enough to be over by 9pm, which as everyone knows is the time when the older generation comes out to play. Its capacity for corrupting the elderly and innocent is therefore limited.

What is the object of it all? Well, the author, a runner-up in the Mobil Playwriting Awards announced last week, is a New Yorker who now lives in London. Her play involves gay sub-worlds and has a self-consciously first-decade, even de-millennium feel to it. It is a fairly distant runner-up to Tony Kushner's *Angels in America* in what might be described as the Apocalypse Awards.

At its centre is a murder. Ongoing Jimmy is pressing shy, reclusive Natty Weldon to go to a party played by, as he puts it, "sweaty men, pressed together, dancing for joy". Time and place are not always very clearly defined in Penny Ciniwicz's production; but the two men's argument appears to be occurring in the street and is interrupted by a stranger who may be homosexual but is certainly homophobic. "I came out for a little scenery and all around me are fags," he tells Simon Gregor's Natty, at which Paul Viragh's Jimmy pluckily intervenes, only to be stabbed to death by a mad-eyed Matthew Wait.

Mostly, the play involves the witness of this casual and, I must say, vividly evoked atrocity. Watching from a

window are Rosie Rowell's bitchy Jaye and Melce Hutton's more demure Tilly, lesbian lovers subsisting on the beer they can steal from supermarkets. Coward on the flange is Andrew Woodall's Marcel, a flamboyant transvestite tart who speaks of himself in the third person only. But the most stricken is obviously Natty, who spends the rest of the evening furiously plastering his torso with eau de cologne and accusing the rest of himself of cowardice.

A bit later the murder is restaged, this time in a way that leaves Natty looking a bit less passive and feeble. Presumably, this is his fantasy rather than objective fact; but, again, neither Ciniwicz's direction nor Nagy's script is very clear on the matter, and probably they are not meant to be. A kind of imaginative wildness verging on craziness rules. I should have mentioned that the play occurs during a heatwave in which temperatures rise for no evident reason from 130 degrees to 170 and finally to 200: at which point cars explode, bridges collapse, characters melt, and Jimmy appears from the grave to lead Natty through the map of Greenwich Village that hangs beside the stage.

The intention is presumably to surprise, disorientate, unsettle, perturb, discombobulate, and so on. In that, the play certainly succeeded — but why, to what end, and with what profit? Frankly, I am still wondering.



Apocalypse already? Simon Gregor (Natty), Andrew Woodall (Marcel)

DANCE: Four contemporary works in Bradford and (below) a familiar staple of the repertoire at Sadler's Wells

Striding boldly towards the future

Nederlands DT
Alhambra, Bradford

WHAT a contrast. While the Royal Ballet is adopting 19th-century attitudes at Covent Garden, Nederlands Dances Theatre, visiting Bradford this week, is limbering up to help take ballet into the 21st century. The first of two programmes at the Alhambra proves that need not mean abandoning classic composers.

The opening work, *The Vile Parody of Address*, seemed to throw some spectators by superimposing a deliberately rambling, disjointed commentary, spoken by Nicholas Champion, on to the repetitions of Bach's *Fugue No 22 in B flat minor from The Well-Tempered Clavier*. But this, I suspect, is largely a subterfuge to make the spectator concentrate harder on the subtle relation between the music and a series of solos and one duet.

William Forsythe's choreography pulls, pushes and tweaks classical ballet movements into shapes that turn in, stretch out, distort expectations (for instance, a man, in a dress that begins with nudging hip to hip, seems more concerned to deposit his partner on the floor than to support her). This is a

beautifully calm, controlled piece that proves the extreme technical skill of the dancers, however much they refuse to swank about it.

Jiri Kylian's *Six Dances* does the programme with a comic flourish, to Mozart's German Dances K571. Much of the action, for eight dancers, is broad and fast, highly inventive, full of surreal, alarms and absurdities, in a world where powdered white wigs do little to mask man's animal nature.

Between these works came two more, by Kylian, both to modern scores. *Falling Angels* sets nine women moving to Steve Reich's *Drumming/Pari Ode*, performed with emphatic power by Circle Percussion, a group of four men led by NDT's managing director, Michael de Roo (he is a musician by choice, an administrator by circumstance).

Reich's inspiration was Ghanaian percussion rituals; Kylian's seems to be

"primitive" dances in which the vivid rhythmic patterns are built on gestures, facial expressions and hints of underlying tribal meanings. This work and *Six Dances* were the two big hits, cheered to the echo.

Lukas Foss's *Orpheus and Euridice*, in the version for two solo violins and ensemble, is the musical staging point of As if I never been, which allows a guess at the identity of the black-clad leading couple, who are at times both united and separated, across the stage, by a red cord. Behind them, mirrored on up-ended gigantic human figures, sit five observers who appear to judge and find them wanting.

But a fast sequence of patterned, synchronised, old-fashioned mime gestures is perhaps there mainly to warn us against literary interpretation, simply accept the work's dark, brooding imagery of doomed passion. Like the whole evening, it is superbly danced, relentlessly but subtly obscured, imaginatively lit. Welcome back, NDT; don't leave it so long next time.

JOHN PERCIVAL

Jiri Kylian's *Falling Angels*: set to a powerful Steve Reich score

No surprises as young love runs its predictable course

Romeo and Juliet
Sadler's Wells

company's limited numbers look reasonably lavish. The leaden choreography, though, would make John Mayor's rhetoric seem high flown.

Perhaps as an expression of confidence in its improving standards, the company fielded a home team for the opening night of its Sadler's Wells season, rather than the many guests (such as Bryony Brind and Mark

Silver) scattered throughout later performances. As Juliet, Kim Miller counterbalanced the clay of her choreography by pouring her heart and soul into the role, offering touching sincerity rather than fine-tuned nuance. Her first encounter with Romeo (led her almost instantaneously into being a solemnly passionate adult. Before it, she had inhabited flippant

girlhood, reading to meeting Paris with a flurry of giggles, coyly presuming, not unreasonably, that the square fur jacket and tight tights that transformed poor Dancer Solomon into a cube with legs. His Paris, however, all stiff postures and florid gestures, hardly provided the answer to a girl's romantic dreams.

Paul Thruswell was a boyishly earnest Romeo, hopelessly in love and elegant in his dancing. Victor Barykin made a wooden Tybalt; Jack Wyngaard, always stylishly virtuosic, a dashing, charming Mercutio. Daryl Griffith conducted the London Ballet Orchestra in a thin account of the score.

NADINE MEISNER

LONDON

CAROUSEL: Michael Hayden in Nicholas Hytner's large-scale production of the Rodgers and Hammerstein Broadway musical which ran for over a year in the West. With choreography by Kenneth MacMillan. National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (071-426-2252). Opens tonight, 7pm, then in repertory.

MAYHEM: A rare chance to see the superb Stephen Sondheim in one of his finest roles, the doomed Crown Prince Rudolf in Macmillan's sensational ballet of sex and death in turn-of-the-century Austria. The New London Collier is the mistress Mary Vetters. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, WC2 (071-240 1000). Tonight, 7.30pm.

ARADITH STINGING QUARTET: The quartet accompanied pianist Claude Helffer perform a selection of chamber music by the Greek composer Iannis Xenakis, who celebrated his 70th birthday this year. Palladium, South Bank, SE1 (071-528 8800). Tonight, 8pm.

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC: The orchestra under Sir Charles Mackerras, with boys from King's College Cambridge and the Cambridge University Musical Society, perform Verdi's 18th Century. Royal Albert Hall, South Bank, SE1 (071-528 8800). Tonight, 7.30pm.

ROBERT LEVIN: The pianist performs Schubert's Sonata in D and Beethoven's Sonata in B flat on the harpsichord. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-528 8800). Tonight, 7.45pm.

ANIME GET YOUR GUN: A new musical is no model for a Natives woman but the songs are simply terrific. Prince of Wales, Covent Garden, W1 (071-836 5887). Tues-Sat, 7.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

AMERICAN: Sondheim's sharp and successful musical explores the impulse that drives us to tell American Presidents. Donmar Warehouse, Earlham Street, WC2 (071-487 1100). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

MAY FEVER: Very funny performances (not always where you expect) in Coward's excellent comedy. Albany, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-887 1115). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

IN THE FAMILY: A look at the hospital common room, where subverted doctors humiliate Roy. Comedy faces with lots of laughs. Playhouse, Northampton Avenue, WC2 (071-433 4401). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

AM IDEAL HUSBAND: Anna Cartwright, Hannah Gordon and Martin Shaw in Walter's "reindeer" comedy. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

JUNE MOON: Have your sonneters T. P. Kneale, Delia Lacey and George S. Kaufman. Five costumed comedies. Lyric Studio, Hammerstein, King Street, W6 (071-741 8701). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

THE RISE AND FALL OF LITTLE WINGS: A comedy about a young woman's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

THE RISE AND FALL OF LITTLE WINGS: A comedy about a young woman's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Heather Alston

ORANGEVILLE ITALIANA 1992: Now in its third edition, the Orangeville Italian is the only one in Britain devoted to Italian art and architecture. Some 40 dealers take part in what is, in effect, a semi-annual exhibition, the whole thing being specially designed for the grand interior of the Accademia. Works on view range from antique sculpture and medieval illuminated manuscripts to 19th-century painting.

Accademia Italiana, 24 Rutland Gate, SW7 (071-225 3474). Mon-Fri, 11am-7pm, Sat, Sun, 11am-6pm. Dec 18.

SHAW: Shaw's play *Arms and the Man*, the obscurest of Paul Shaw's, a romantic novel played by Bill Paterson. This new play, a psychological thriller, is based on the book by Stephen King that was turned into a movie two years ago.

Arms and the Man, 24 Rutland Gate, SW7 (071-225 3474). Mon-Fri, 11am-7pm, Sat, Sun, 11am-6pm. Dec 18.

REGIONAL: GUILDFORD: Continuing its tour of the country, the Guildford Opera will perform a new production of *Die Fledermaus*, directed by Peter Knapp and Michael Don Giovanni.

Die Fledermaus, Guildford, Surrey, GU10 1AA. Don Giovanni, 10.15pm. Don Giovanni, 10.15pm. Don Giovanni, 10.15pm.

ROBERT LEVIN: The pianist performs Schubert's Sonata in D and Beethoven's Sonata in B flat on the harpsichord. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-528 8800). Tonight, 7.45pm.

ANIME GET YOUR GUN: A new musical is no model for a Natives woman but the songs are simply terrific. Prince of Wales, Covent Garden, W1 (071-836 5887). Tues-Sat, 7.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

AMERICAN: Sondheim's sharp and successful musical explores the impulse that drives us to tell American Presidents. Donmar Warehouse, Earlham Street, WC2 (071-487 1100). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

MAY FEVER: Very funny performances (not always where you expect) in Coward's excellent comedy. Albany, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-887 1115). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

IN THE FAMILY: A look at the hospital common room, where subverted doctors humiliate Roy. Comedy faces with lots of laughs. Playhouse, Northampton Avenue, WC2 (071-433 4401). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

AM IDEAL HUSBAND: Anna Cartwright, Hannah Gordon and Martin Shaw in Walter's "reindeer" comedy. The Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

JUNE MOON: Have your sonneters T. P. Kneale, Delia Lacey and George S. Kaufman. Five costumed comedies. Lyric Studio, Hammerstein, King Street, W6 (071-741 8701). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

THE RISE AND FALL OF LITTLE WINGS: A comedy about a young woman's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

THE RISE AND FALL OF LITTLE WINGS: A comedy about a young woman's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

LOST IN YONKERS: Terence Rattigan's comedy about a young man's relationship with a young woman. Newly done through the man's point of view. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 3000). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 10.30pm.

More than bodies in the library

The popular image of the librarian is decades out of date. Alison Roberts speaks up on behalf of a silent minority

Spectacles, thinning hair or a tightly drawn bun, an A-line skirt or tweed jacket crushed at the elbows — this is the public image of a public librarian, and it is not complimentary. Surely they must be shy, retiring people? After all, they have to keep quiet all day. The very word "bookish" is almost synonymous with "boring". And nowadays the phrase "blue-stocking" only refers to female librarians.

Where does this prejudice come from? A new book by two French authors, Renée Lemaître and Anne-Marie Chaintreau, attempts to explain. But along the way, *Drôles de Bibliothèques* (Cercle de la Librairie, Paris) also discovers that librarians in films and books are as often ravishing blondes, philanderers or adventurers as they are dusty buns.

When the young, female librarian shakes down her hair she becomes an object of lust. Her man may be ready to corrupt her, but she tames him: he civilising power of books and a good woman combined are all it takes. High heels may not be conducive to climbing step-ladders in order to trawl the shelves, but Carol Lombard manages magnificently in *No Man of Her Own*, simultaneously getting her book and Carl Gable.

Librarians in pulp romance are similarly glorified. Barbara Pym's lead in *An Unsuitable Attachment* is the librarian daughter of a canon who marries the handsome topper, much to her father's chagrin. It all works out, naturally, and they drift off into a fictitious sunset in a world where public libraries sock nothing but romance.

Katharine Hepburn and Bette Davis are librarians of a different order. More heroine than eventual *femme fatale*, Davis subverts the subliminal, public-serving female role by refusing to censor the contents of her library. Alicia, Davis's character, wields authority rather than library stamp in the 1956 film *Storm Centre*. She will not comply with a request from city officials to withdraw a book and is heroically dismissed, to go for a more interesting job perhaps.

Hepburn has some stereotyped difficulties with a 1957 version of the "new computer system" in *Desk Set*. She overcomes them, of course, with help from Spencer Tracy.



Spencer Tracy and Katharine Hepburn in *Desk Set*: in literature and the cinema the librarian is either depicted as boring, or glorified beyond recognition

Hepburn and Davis are almost revolutionary librarians, a far cry from the Ronnie Corbett character in the sitcom *Sorry!*, who made Library Association members angry.

Ross Shimmom, chief executive of the L.A. says that real librarians are hard to come by on television and in films. "The character in *Only Two Can Play*, based on the Kingsley Amis novel, is slightly better and much more interesting. But you can't call his sexual harassment a good example," he says.

Peter Sellers plays the hero in the 1964 film. He teeters on the edge of an affair with the wife of the library committee, only to decide against it at the last moment. Too exciting.

Although male librarians are a lesser breed on the screen, they generally suffer more than women at the hands of the image-makers. While women are supposed to enjoy serving and keeping quiet — Anita

Brookner's librarian in *Look At Me* virtually mothers her readers — men are more likely to resent being at the public's beck and call.

Gérard de Nerval called the librarian's service "paternal self-abnegation", but it is Philip Larkin, poet and librarian, who really does for the male version. His contempt for books, his bitterness and malice may have come from being shut in with so many volumes for so long. Or at least that is how one critical refrain runs. Men in libraries are commonly perceived to be bachelors, with an old-suit image and baggy coats. Meanwhile, Joe Orton famously defiled library books with obscenity in a rebellious rejection of the stuffy library atmosphere.

For the Library Association, Shimmom maintains that libraries are now exciting places, humming with computer terminals. But in fiction they can also be filled with

more frightening noises — the scream of a murder victim for example. In *The Widening Stain*, written in 1942 by W. Bolingbroke Johnson, the crime takes place in the library aisles and it is the librarian herself who plays detective (with her mind "admirably indexed").

In *The Spy Who Came in From the Cold*, John Le Carré portrays a malicious old librarian who delights in tormenting the young heroine. The schoolmarmish image and the often sexless atmosphere of a library in fiction is ill-thought out, according to the Library Association. School libraries may not be much fun — in Barry Hines's *Kes* the librarian is a tyrant. But in real life, college libraries are places of high drama where notes are passed and relationships formed.

While those tall, domineering

librarians with which children come into contact in adult or teenage novels are dour, sometimes cruel characters, those in books written for children are more fun. Far from tying readers down to a desk and a worthy tome, they introduce the under-13s to the world of books where the imagination can run free.

Some are found disappearing into books themselves in a self-referential exercise worthy of Jacques Derrida. In Steven Kellogg's children's book *The Mysterious Tadpole* a map found on the shelves leads the child reader, together with the librarian, to buried treasure and piratical adventure.

So the function of the librarian in books and films depends on the anticipated audience. Television librarians are often more stereotypical than those on film. Popular soaps and sitcoms depend far more on the joke and the cartoon.

"Popular perception tends to lag behind the reality by 20 or 30 years. It is often easier for comedy writers to refer to the myth rather than think it through from their own experience," says Shimmom.

Nevertheless, the rich stock of librarian imagery provides an interesting insight into our relationship with books as much as with the people who teach them for us. To be that closely associated with books, without actually writing them, is scorned. But close proximity to books and knowledge should make one more rounded: the opposite of a bore at parties. Our perception of the librarian may reflect a wider anti-intellectualism. Reading should not be a substitute for living, but librarians and people who go to libraries do both. Perhaps it is time for Harrison Ford or Tom Cruise to play the adventurous male librarian who is proud of his job.

NEW MUSIC

Firsts from the Finns

Like much new music in any country, most Scandinavian contemporary music will probably prove ephemeral. But the two recent works by the Finnish composers Magnus Lindberg and Kaija Saariaho, heard at The Place in the first concert of a week of contemporary music under the banner of the "Tender is the North" festival, deserve a longer life and a wider circulation.

Saariaho's piece, *Avers*, a joint commission from the Barbican and IRCAM in Paris, was receiving its first performance. Any objection to the fact that the week's artistic director was programming her own work was banished by the quality of the music.

The piece employs a new amplification technique developed at IRCAM, which dedicates a single microphone to each string of the solo cello, superbly played here by Anssi Karttunen, and projects the sound to four different loudspeakers.

This was impressive, tough music. Its title is French for "navigation beacons". There was a vastness and a mystery about it, connecting it to Sibelius, however different the language. The work's inner motion derived largely from sounds enveloping and overlapping each other.

Listening to the work as a study in colour was probably the best approach at first meeting, yet one was conscious of the sense of organism behind it. Each instrumental element — soloist, small ensemble and computer-generated sounds — constantly tugged at the others, pulling them from their intended paths.

Lindberg's *Joy*, composed for a larger group in 1989-90, proved an apt complement. In its multifarious activity there is an underlying, binding euphony; sometimes the harmonies become quite bluesy. Colour is again an important element.

Avant!, the chamber ensemble formed by the Finnish conductors Esa-Pekka Salonen and Jukka-Pekka Saraste in 1983, played both works under Saraste's direction with considerable flair.

STEPHEN PETTITT

TELEVISION REVIEW: Tony Patrick on *The Blackheath Poisonings*

Arsenic and seltzer on the frocks

Simon Raven's three-hour television adaptation of Julian Symonds' novel, *The Blackheath Poisonings*, which concluded last night on ITV, was at the same time congested and padded out. Perhaps, apart from being livable when a British mini-series is a collaboration with an American partner (Central Films and WGBH Boston, in this case), that was an additional period touch, the clutter of the Victorian domestic interiors being extended to the screenplay.

The gaping holes in the plot, inconsistencies of style and simple anachronisms are less easy to excuse or explain, but this was, at the very least, a beautifully costumed entertainment. Jenny Beavan, an Oscar winner for *A Room with a View*, was responsible.

As the various suspects and also-rans glided through the immaculately scruffy streets of a recreated south-east London, 1894-5, or across the carpets of the early American Albert Villa, one's doubts about the dialogue were repeatedly eclipsed by astonishment at the fineness of detail in the pouring dresses (and, for that matter, the morning coats).

The cast, like the screenplay, was extravagantly good in some respects, curiously weak



Paul (Christian Anhalt) and Isabel (Christine Kavanagh)

in others. Judy Parfitt's beset-like Charlotte, head of the Collard household, was the summit of perfection: Donald Sumpter's Inspector Timmarsh — leaning and fidgeting like a late-Victorian Columbo, or Ken Campbell overdoing on smelling salts — was the slough of Coarse Acting.

Between those extremes lay a slippery slope of thespian endeavour, on which the likes of Zoë Wanamaker, Ian McNeice, Patrick Malahide and James Faulkner struggled within the constrictions of their thinly written characters. The prominence of young

Paul Vandervent (Christian Anhalt), son of the first poison victim and step-grandson (if) of the second, was rather too obviously an acknowledgement that an American audience needs a young protagonist, but the actor did well.

Similarly, Christine Kavanagh as Isabel carried the story (and the burden of assumed guilt) with great conviction, but the attempt to make her a spokeswoman for Free Love and Being True to Yourself was taken too far. It is a tribute to the skill of the actress that she was able to retain both our sympathy and

a measure of credibility. As to who actually did it, well, unnaturally enough, it was the transvestite George (McNeice), Episcopo, gross and vicious as he was supposed to be. McNeice could hardly help seeming more decent and human than he should have been, particularly when seen alongside Sumpter and Malahide, whose characters lacked only speech bubbles to become truly two-dimensional.

Blackheath itself was filmed very carefully to avoid any visual intrusion from the 20th century, but director Stuart Orme was less scrupulous about excluding present-day attitudes and behaviour. The dialogue skipped alarmingly from arch authenticity to modern sloppiness, further distorted by the need for keeping the plot on the move without showing every scene from the novel.

Among the incidental delights were Ronald Fraser as the dangerous Doctor Porter and Ian Bartholomew as the perfidious butler, Jenkins. Kenneth Haigh and Colin Jeavons, the opposing counsel at Isabel's trial, were sadly not allowed to expand on their briefs, but Nicholas Woodeson made a considerable impact as the smug, officious and ineffectual Bertie, peripheral but somehow crucial at every turn.

POP: Alan Jackson has his emotions professionally stirred by a veteran drama queen

The problem facing most of those sitting within dashing distance of the stage was a taxing one indeed: when to place that bulky, cellopane-wrapped bouquet until Shirley Bassey took the stage. For fans who had stage floral tributes conchosed within bowls or wicker baskets, it was tougher still. Bob beneath your seat to sweep it up at a moment of high drama and a dozen other high drama will have beaten you to the footlights. Nurse it on your knee and you can no longer kneel or swoon over the hurra or burst to say, "New opening bars to say, 'New York, New York' or 'He Was Beautiful' with quite the same degree of abandonment as your neighbour. Exact man — for they were all men, some middle-aged

Fantasy blossoms

Shirley Bassey
Albert Hall

but more often young and very carefully dressed — dealt with the dilemma in his own way. One thing is for sure though: a Bassey tour must rival St Valentine's and Mother's Day when it comes to keeping Britain's florists in full fiscal bloom.

No sooner had she stalked on stage to a gladiatorial fanfare and whipped through a clipped, camp "Goldfinger" than the first blossoms began to fall at her feet. And by the time she had dabbed the tears

away from her eyes at the close of George Harrison's "Something", only her third number, the stage resembled New Covent Garden market in full swing.

That she arouses such passion is hardly news — Bassey has long been the most stylised of singers, a true drama queen. Her devotees, one can sense, believe her to be the most creative of interpreters — but she is not. Though her voice remains solid and steady, there was an element of pantomime to this show.

The emotions she showed us were big and colourful and, as such, often hugely enjoyable. "I Who Have Nothing", for

example, was delivered with such breast-beating relish that it could have been lifted from the pages of a Greek tragedy. But although this bravura display fitted her stage persona to perfection, it told us disappointingly little about the woman inside, and self-revelation was limited to a gown as diaphanous as the wrappings around the tide of flowers by now lapping her toes.

Four decades into her career, Bassey could be described — and kindly — as a self-parody. But so forcefully does she live out the fantasies of her audience that here, in one of six Albert Hall appearances ending a British tour, one applauded her instead as the glamorous epitome of certain old-style, strangely noble showbiz values.

TOWER RECORDS

DECCA

PHILIPS

Classics



MOZART:
THE MARRIAGE
OF FIGARO
Academy
of St. Martin
in the Fields
- MARRINER -



STRAUSS:
DIE FRAU
OHNE
SCHATTEN
Vienna
Philharmonic
- SOLTI -



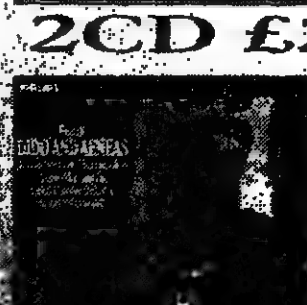
VERDI:
La Traviata
PAVAROTTI/
STUDER
Metropolitan Opera
Orchestra & Chorus
- LEVINE -



ROSSINI:
The Barber
Of Seville
DOMINGO
Chamber Orchestra
of Europe
- ABBADO -



VERDI:
Otello
PAVAROTTI/
TE KANAWA
Chicago Symphony
Orchestra & Chorus
- SOLTI -



PURCELL:
Dido
and Aeneas
NORMAN
English Chamber
Orchestra
- LEPPARD -

£13.99 CD'S NOW

£12.99 CD'S NOW

£10.99

£7.99

... TOWER RECORDS • IT'S A GLOBAL THING • TOWER RECORDS ...

GLASGOW

KENSINGTON

PICCADILLY

KINGSTON

WHITELEYS

SALE ENDS DEC 30TH

Law Report December 10 1992 Court of Appeal

Withdrawal of medical treatment from hopeless case not unlawful

Airedale National Health Service Trust v Bland

Before Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Bingham, Lord Justice Hoffmann and Lord Justice Mustill

[Judgment December 9]

The withdrawal of medical care, including the removal of artificial feeding procedures, was not unlawful where the patient suffered from persistent vegetative state from which he would not recover and where it was known that after such withdrawal, the patient would die.

However, in a such case application should be made to the court to obtain its sanction for the course proposed.

The Court of Appeal so held dismissing an appeal by the Official Solicitor acting on behalf of Mr Anthony Bland from Sir Stephen Brown, President of the Family Division (The Times November 23) who had granted declarations on the application on the Airedale National Health Service Trust, in whose hospital Mr Bland was a patient, that they:

(1) May lawfully discontinue all life sustaining treatment and medical support measures designed to keep Mr Bland alive in his existing persistent vegetative state including the termination of ventilation, nutrition and hydration by artificial means; and

(2) That they may lawfully discontinue and thereafter need not furnish medical treatment to Anthony Bland except for the sole purpose of enabling Anthony Bland to end his life and to die peacefully with the greatest dignity and the least distress.

Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was granted.

In 1989 Mr Bland, then aged 17, had been injured in the Hillsborough Stadium disaster and suffering irreversible brain damage had since then been in a persistent vegetative state (PVS).

In that condition he had no cognitive function, no sight, hearing, capacity to feel pain or move his limbs or commu-

nicate in any way. Unable to swallow, he was fed by nasogastric tube. His bowels were evacuated by enema, his bladder drained by catheter. Repeated chest and urinary tract infections were treated by antibiotics. The consensus of medical opinion was that there was no hope of his improvement or recovery.

Mr James Munby, QC, for the Official Solicitor; Mr Robert Francis, QC and Mr Michael R. Taylor for the health authority; Mr Anthony Lester, QC and Mr Pushpinder Saini as amici curiae.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the case was not about euthanasia, if by that meant the taking of positive action to cause death. It was not about putting down the old and infirm, the mentally defective or the physically imperfect. It had nothing to do with the eugenic practices associated with fascist Germany.

The issue was whether artificial feeding and antibiotic drugs might lawfully be withheld from an inanimate patient with no hope of recovery when it was known that if that were done the patient would shortly thereafter die.

His Lordship referred to principles accepted by both parties that:

- 1 A profound respect for the sanctity of human life was embedded in our law and moral philosophy;
- 2 It was a civil wrong, and might be a crime, to impose medical treatment on a conscious adult of sound mind without his or her consent; see *In re F (Mental Patient: Sterilisation)* [1992] AC 817, 904-9051 and *In re T (Adult: Refusal of Treatment)* [1992] 3 WLR 782.

That principle applied even if by the time the circumstances obtained the

patient was unconscious or of unsound mind.

4 Where an adult patient was mentally incapable of giving his consent, no one, including the court, could consent on his behalf. Treatment could lawfully be provided by a doctor where it was in the patient's best interests or (4) to relieve pain and suffering in body and mind.

His Lordship doubted if it had ever been an object of medical care merely to prolong the life of an inanimate patient with no hope of recovery where nothing could be done to promote any of those objects.

Mr Francis, whose application had been supported by Mr Lester, relying on cases in the United States, South Africa, and New Zealand, where courts had sanctioned the discontinuance of artificial feeding of PVS patients, and on the Canadian Law Reform Commission's working paper on euthanasia, as well as material produced by the British Medical Association and the Institute of Medical Ethics, had argued:

1 The question whether artificial feeding and antibiotic treatment of Mr Bland should be discontinued was to be resolved by the doctors in charge of his case, in consultation with the medical experts, exercising a careful and informed judgment of what the patient's best interests required. In forming that judgment it was appropriate to take full account of the family's wishes, which they had known.

2 While the respect accorded to human life always raised a presumption, it was not irrebuttable.

3 Mere prolongation of the life of a PVS patient such as Mr Bland with no hope of any recovery was not necessarily in his best interests, if in his interest at all.

4 In making an objective judgment of the patient's best interests, it was not only of any pain and suffering which prolonged feeding might cause but also of wider less tangible considerations.

5 The assessment of Mr Bland's best interests, although a matter for his

doctors in the first instance, was ultimately subject to the sanction of the court.

1 Additionally the objects of medical care had been (i) to prevent the occurrence of illness, (ii) to cure illness, (iii) where it could not be cured, to prevent or retard deterioration of the patient's condition and (iv) to relieve pain and suffering in body and mind.

His Lordship doubted if it had ever been an object of medical care merely to prolong the life of an inanimate patient with no hope of recovery where nothing could be done to promote any of those objects.

Mr Francis, whose application had been supported by Mr Lester, relying on cases in the United States, South Africa, and New Zealand, where courts had sanctioned the discontinuance of artificial feeding of PVS patients, and on the Canadian Law Reform Commission's working paper on euthanasia, as well as material produced by the British Medical Association and the Institute of Medical Ethics, had argued:

1 The question whether artificial feeding and antibiotic treatment of Mr Bland should be discontinued was to be resolved by the doctors in charge of his case, in consultation with the medical experts, exercising a careful and informed judgment of what the patient's best interests required. In forming that judgment it was appropriate to take full account of the family's wishes, which they had known.

2 While the respect accorded to human life always raised a presumption, it was not irrebuttable.

3 Mere prolongation of the life of a PVS patient such as Mr Bland with no hope of any recovery was not necessarily in his best interests, if in his interest at all.

4 In making an objective judgment of the patient's best interests, it was not only of any pain and suffering which prolonged feeding might cause but also of wider less tangible considerations.

5 The assessment of Mr Bland's best interests, although a matter for his

doctors in the first instance, was ultimately subject to the sanction of the court.

1 Additionally the objects of medical care had been (i) to prevent the occurrence of illness, (ii) to cure illness, (iii) where it could not be cured, to prevent or retard deterioration of the patient's condition and (iv) to relieve pain and suffering in body and mind.

His Lordship doubted if it had ever been an object of medical care merely to prolong the life of an inanimate patient with no hope of recovery where nothing could be done to promote any of those objects.

Mr Francis, whose application had been supported by Mr Lester, relying on cases in the United States, South Africa, and New Zealand, where courts had sanctioned the discontinuance of artificial feeding of PVS patients, and on the Canadian Law Reform Commission's working paper on euthanasia, as well as material produced by the British Medical Association and the Institute of Medical Ethics, had argued:

1 The question whether artificial feeding and antibiotic treatment of Mr Bland should be discontinued was to be resolved by the doctors in charge of his case, in consultation with the medical experts, exercising a careful and informed judgment of what the patient's best interests required. In forming that judgment it was appropriate to take full account of the family's wishes, which they had known.

2 While the respect accorded to human life always raised a presumption, it was not irrebuttable.

3 Mere prolongation of the life of a PVS patient such as Mr Bland with no hope of any recovery was not necessarily in his best interests, if in his interest at all.

4 In making an objective judgment of the patient's best interests, it was not only of any pain and suffering which prolonged feeding might cause but also of wider less tangible considerations.

5 The assessment of Mr Bland's best interests, although a matter for his

doctors in the first instance, was ultimately subject to the sanction of the court.

1 Additionally the objects of medical care had been (i) to prevent the occurrence of illness, (ii) to cure illness, (iii) where it could not be cured, to prevent or retard deterioration of the patient's condition and (iv) to relieve pain and suffering in body and mind.

His Lordship doubted if it had ever been an object of medical care merely to prolong the life of an inanimate patient with no hope of recovery where nothing could be done to promote any of those objects.

Mr Francis, whose application had been supported by Mr Lester, relying on cases in the United States, South Africa, and New Zealand, where courts had sanctioned the discontinuance of artificial feeding of PVS patients, and on the Canadian Law Reform Commission's working paper on euthanasia, as well as material produced by the British Medical Association and the Institute of Medical Ethics, had argued:

1 The question whether artificial feeding and antibiotic treatment of Mr Bland should be discontinued was to be resolved by the doctors in charge of his case, in consultation with the medical experts, exercising a careful and informed judgment of what the patient's best interests required. In forming that judgment it was appropriate to take full account of the family's wishes, which they had known.

2 While the respect accorded to human life always raised a presumption, it was not irrebuttable.

3 Mere prolongation of the life of a PVS patient such as Mr Bland with no hope of any recovery was not necessarily in his best interests, if in his interest at all.

4 In making an objective judgment of the patient's best interests, it was not only of any pain and suffering which prolonged feeding might cause but also of wider less tangible considerations.

5 The assessment of Mr Bland's best interests, although a matter for his

doctors in the first instance, was ultimately subject to the sanction of the court.

1 Additionally the objects of medical care had been (i) to prevent the occurrence of illness, (ii) to cure illness, (iii) where it could not be cured, to prevent or retard deterioration of the patient's condition and (iv) to relieve pain and suffering in body and mind.

His Lordship doubted if it had ever been an object of medical care merely to prolong the life of an inanimate patient with no hope of recovery where nothing could be done to promote any of those objects.

Mr Francis, whose application had been supported by Mr Lester, relying on cases in the United States, South Africa, and New Zealand, where courts had sanctioned the discontinuance of artificial feeding of PVS patients, and on the Canadian Law Reform Commission's working paper on euthanasia, as well as material produced by the British Medical Association and the Institute of Medical Ethics, had argued:

1 The question whether artificial feeding and antibiotic treatment of Mr Bland should be discontinued was to be resolved by the doctors in charge of his case, in consultation with the medical experts, exercising a careful and informed judgment of what the patient's best interests required. In forming that judgment it was appropriate to take full account of the family's wishes, which they had known.

2 While the respect accorded to human life always raised a presumption, it was not irrebuttable.

3 Mere prolongation of the life of a PVS patient such as Mr Bland with no hope of any recovery was not necessarily in his best interests, if in his interest at all.

4 In making an objective judgment of the patient's best interests, it was not only of any pain and suffering which prolonged feeding might cause but also of wider less tangible considerations.

5 The assessment of Mr Bland's best interests, although a matter for his

Solicitor forfeited independent status

In re Scientific Investment Pension Plan

Clark and Another v Hicks

Before Mr Justice Mervyn Davies

[Judgment November 30]

A solicitor appointed as an independent trustee of a pension plan pursuant to section 57C of the Social Security Pensions Act 1975, as inserted by paragraph 4 of Schedule 4 to the Social Security Act 1990, who procured the services of partners in his own firm to assist him in carrying out his duties did not satisfy the requirements of regulation 3(2) and (3) of the Occupational Pension Schemes (Independent Trustees) Regulations (SI 1990 No 2075) taken together, because he was an associate, within section 435 of the Insolvency Act 1986, of persons who had provided services to the trustees. Accordingly, he had forfeited his status as an "independent trustee" within the meaning of sections 57C and 57D of the Act of 1975 and the 1990 Regulations.

Mr Justice Mervyn Davies so held in the Chancery Division when declaring that the first plaintiff, Mr David John Clark, a solicitor, could no longer act as an independent trustee of the Scientific Investment Pension Plan (SIPP) established by Regenda Holdings Ltd, in relation to a motion brought by the first plaintiff against the defendant, Mrs Margaret Hicks, a member of the SIPP and representing its other members.

Regulation 2 of the 1990 Regulations provides: "(1) For the purposes of section 57C(2), a person is 'independent' only if he satisfies the requirements of paragraphs (2) and (3) of this regulation as well as the provisions of section 57C(3)(a) and (b).

"(2) This paragraph requires that the person has not provided services to the trustee or managers of the scheme, or the employer, in relation to the scheme. This requirement is, however, satisfied if the last occasion on which the person provided services was more than three years before section 57C started to apply in relation to the scheme.

"(3) This paragraph requires that the person is neither connected with, nor an associate of — (a) a person who has an interest in the assets of the employer or of the scheme, otherwise than as trustee of the scheme; or (b) a person to whom paragraph (2) of this regulation applies."

Mr Patrick Howell, QC and Mr James Clifford for the first plaintiff; Mr Christopher Nugge for the defendant.

MR JUSTICE MERVYN DAVIES said that the motion had been issued in the course of proceedings by way of originating summons issued by the first plaintiff and the second plaintiff, Investment Capital Pension Trustees Ltd, as trustees of the SIPP. The relief sought in the originating summons was for certain directions as to the course the trustees should pursue in administering the scheme.

The notice of motion was dated October 13, 1992 and sought a direction, whether, on the true construction of sections 57C and 57D of the 1975 Act, the 1990 Regulations, the trust deed and in the events which had happened, the first plaintiff was or was not an independent trustee. It was issued on behalf of the first plaintiff only.

On January 31, 1992 Mr Clark was appointed as the independent trustee of the SIPP. The parties to a supplemental deed of the same date were (i) Regenda Holdings

Ltd, in liquidation, (ii) Lee Anthony Manning and (iii) Mr Clark. Records showed Mr Manning was appointed liquidator of Regenda on December 20, 1991 with the result that he had a duty under section 57C to appoint or procure the appointment of an independent person as a trustee of the SIPP. The following day, the appointment of Mr Clark was as a solicitor and partner in the firm of Clark.

In an affidavit, Mr Clark said he had retained the services of advisers who had previously provided services to the second plaintiff or Regenda and, further, set out details of services provided by him to the SIPP. He had in a sense provided "services to the trustees" in that in acting on his own or together with his co-trustees some service had been carried out for the fund or trust, for example, in getting in the assets.

On the other hand paragraph (2) in speaking of "services to the trustees" might well mean services for which a trustee usually paid, for example, the services of a solicitor or accountant.

On that footing a solicitor, being a sole practitioner, who was an independent trustee could safely carry out all such work as was normally done by a trustee personally. That must be so.

And in that situation it must be permissible for him to use his own assistants, clerks, and so on since they did not provide services to the fund.

However, if in the course of his office, the independent trustee were to act for himself, and his co-trustee in the course of litigation it was not clear that he could do so. That is a partner or employee of the 1986 Act. "Person" in paragraph (3) meant, in his Lordship's view, a person who had provided "services to the trustees" within paragraph (2).

It was a fact that Mr Clark's practice had provided services to the trustees. He agreed with Mr Nugge that an independent trustee could not procure his own firm to provide services to the fund or trustees without losing his independence.

One considered his independence after the date of the appointment one saw, see regulation 2, that a person was not independent

if he had provided services. Thus an independent trustee ceased to comply with the requirements of regulation 2 if he, after the date of his appointment, provided services within regulation 2(2) and (3).

In view of that conclusion, it was necessary to consider whether Mr Clark's actions since his appointment had the effect that he ceased to be "independent" as explained in section 57C(2) and (3) and regulation 2.

What had to be considered was regulation 2. Looking at paragraph (2), on the evidence, it appeared that Mr Clark had not provided services to "managers of the scheme" or "the employer". He had in a sense provided "services to the trustees" in that in acting on his own or together with his co-trustees some service had been carried out for the fund or trust, for example, in getting in the assets.

On the other hand paragraph (2) in speaking of "services to the trustees" might well mean services for which a trustee usually paid, for example, the services of a solicitor or accountant.

On that footing a solicitor, being a sole practitioner, who was an independent trustee could safely carry out all such work as was normally done by a trustee personally. That must be so.

And in that situation it must be permissible for him to use his own assistants, clerks, and so on since they did not provide services to the fund.

However, if in the course of his office, the independent trustee were to act for himself, and his co-trustee in the course of litigation it was not clear that he could do so. That is a partner or employee of the 1986 Act. "Person" in paragraph (3) meant, in his Lordship's view, a person who had provided "services to the trustees" within paragraph (2).

It was a fact that Mr Clark's practice had provided services to the trustees. He agreed with Mr Nugge that an independent trustee could not procure his own firm to provide services to the fund or trustees without losing his independence.

One considered his independence after the date of the appointment one saw, see regulation 2, that a person was not independent

if he had provided services. Thus an independent trustee ceased to comply with the requirements of regulation 2 if he, after the date of his appointment, provided services within regulation 2(2) and (3).

In view of that conclusion, it was necessary to consider whether Mr Clark's actions since his appointment had the effect that he ceased to be "independent" as explained in section 57C(2) and (3) and regulation 2.

What had to be considered was regulation 2. Looking at paragraph (2), on the evidence, it appeared that Mr Clark had not provided services to "managers of the scheme" or "the employer". He had in a sense provided "services to the trustees" in that in acting on his own or together with his co-trustees some service had been carried out for the fund or trust, for example, in getting in the assets.

On the other hand paragraph (2) in speaking of "services to the trustees" might well mean services for which a trustee usually paid, for example, the services of a solicitor or accountant.

On that footing a solicitor, being a sole practitioner, who was an independent trustee could safely carry out all such work as was normally done by a trustee personally. That must be so.

And in that situation it must be permissible for him to use his own assistants, clerks, and so on since they did not provide services to the fund.

However, if in the course of his office, the independent trustee were to act for himself, and his co-trustee in the course of litigation it was not clear that he could do so. That is a partner or employee of the 1986 Act. "Person" in paragraph (3) meant, in his Lordship's view, a person who had provided "services to the trustees" within paragraph (2).

It was a fact that Mr Clark's practice had provided services to the trustees. He agreed with Mr Nugge that an independent trustee could not procure his own firm to provide services to the fund or trustees without losing his independence.

One considered his independence after the date of the appointment one saw, see regulation 2, that a person was not independent

Arab Monetary Fund v Hashim and Others (No 7)

Before Lord Justice Dillon, Lord Justice Neill and Lord Justice Hirst

[Judgment November 25]

An order made by the court in the exercise of its discretion, under Order 38, rule 3 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, as to the manner in which a party has to prove at a trial to identify the particular fact or facts which were to be proved and then specify the type of evidence which could be given of that fact.

The court's jurisdiction as to what facts or what types of evidence might be specified in the order was unrestricted.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing the appeal of Jawad Mahmoud Hashim, Salwa Al Rafea and Omar Hashim, the first, second and eleven defendants, against that part of the order of Mr Justice Hoffmann of May 12, 1992, when giving directions on various matters pending the trial of the action due to commence in the Chancery Division early next year, which related to five categories of original or copy documents, bank account transactions, bank statements, foreign exchange contracts, precious metal contracts and loans or deposits, and a substitute order was imposed.

Mr Colin Ross-Munro, QC and Mr Hugo Page for the appellants; Mr Charles Flint for the plaintiff.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that the trial would be concerned with many currency and banking transactions and crucial questions would arise as to whose money were being used and who was the owner of various bank accounts.

The present wording of Order 38, rule 3 had existed since 1954, and his Lordship agreed with the view of Mr Justice Bingham in *H v Solihull Children's Ltd* [1993] 1 WLR 143, 147H that the purpose of the rule was to facilitate the proof of matters which, although in issue, were peripheral to the major issue in the particular action; its purpose was not to permit the adding on a crucial issue under the rule of evidence.

A much broader view of the rule was taken by Mr Justice Hoffmann when he directed that all the documents could be relied on for the purpose of the court (i) drawing such inferences as it thought fit as to the authenticity of the documents, (ii) treating them as admissible evidence of the facts they recorded, and (iii) drawing any other inferences which might be drawn from their contents.

In his Lordship's view that went far too far and was outside what the rule permitted. The rule was concerned only with the proving of "particular facts".

The starting point had to be to identify the particular facts which were to be proved by the means specified in the order made.

The judge had not identified any particular facts but merely identified a large number of documents, and said that they might be relied on as evidence of anything that could be deduced from them.

It would be startling to hold that in civil proceedings wholesale dispersion with the hearsay rule had been readily available since 1954, if not before, by means of an order under the rule as broad as the order in the present case.

A further objection was that the judge was aware that some of the documents were to be challenged by the first defendant, so that the effect of the order was to put the onus on him to disprove the authenticity of those documents in respect of which he would have served a notice under Order 27, rule 4.

That could not, in his Lordship's view, be a proper exercise of the judge's discretion under Order 38, rule 3.

Manner of proving facts at trial

Before Lord Justice Neill, Lord Justice Hirst and Lord Justice Mustill

[Judgment November 25]

An order made by the court in the exercise of its discretion, under Order 38, rule 3 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, as to the manner in which a party has to prove at a trial to identify the particular fact or facts which were to be proved and then specify the type of evidence which could be given of that fact.

The court's jurisdiction as to what facts or what types of evidence might be specified in the order was unrestricted.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing the appeal of Jawad Mahmoud Hashim, Salwa Al Rafea and Omar Hashim, the first, second and eleven defendants, against that part of the order of Mr Justice Hoffmann of May 12, 1992, when giving directions on various matters pending the trial of the action due to commence in the Chancery Division early next year, which related to five categories of original or copy documents, bank account transactions, bank statements, foreign exchange contracts, precious metal contracts and loans or deposits, and a substitute order was imposed.

Mr Colin Ross-Munro, QC and Mr Hugo Page for the appellants; Mr Charles Flint for the plaintiff.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that the trial would be concerned with many currency and banking transactions and crucial questions would arise as to whose money were being used and who was the owner of various bank accounts.

The present wording of Order 38, rule 3 had existed since 1954, and his Lordship agreed with the view of Mr Justice Bingham in *H v Solihull Children's Ltd* [1993] 1 WLR 143, 147H that the purpose of the rule was to facilitate the proof of matters which, although in issue, were peripheral to the major issue in the particular action; its purpose was not to permit the adding on a crucial issue under the rule of evidence.

A much broader view of the rule was taken by Mr Justice Hoffmann when he directed that all the documents could be relied on for the purpose of the court (i) drawing such inferences as it thought fit as to the authenticity of the documents, (ii) treating them as admissible evidence of the facts they recorded, and (iii) drawing any other inferences which might be drawn from their contents.

In his Lordship's view that went far too far and was outside what the rule permitted. The rule was concerned only with the proving of "particular facts".

The starting point had to be to identify the particular facts which were to be proved by the means specified in the order made.

The judge had not identified any particular facts but merely identified a large number of documents, and said that they might be relied on as evidence of anything that could be deduced from them.

It would be startling to hold that in civil proceedings wholesale dispersion with the hearsay rule had been readily available since 1954, if not before, by means of an order under the rule as broad as the order in the present case.

A further objection was that the judge was aware that some of the documents were to be challenged by the first defendant, so that the effect of the order was to put the onus on him to disprove the authenticity of those documents in respect of which he would have served a notice under Order 27, rule 4.

That could not, in his Lordship's view, be a proper exercise of the judge's discretion under Order 38, rule 3.

Community rules not applicable

Before Lord Justice Neill, Lord Justice Hirst and Lord Justice Mustill

[Judgment November 25]

An order made by the court in the exercise of its discretion, under Order 38, rule 3 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, as to the manner in which a party has to prove at a trial to identify the particular fact or facts which were to be proved and then specify the type of evidence which could be given of that fact.

The court's jurisdiction as to what facts or what types of evidence might be specified in the order was unrestricted.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing the appeal of Jawad Mahmoud Hashim, Salwa Al Rafea and Omar Hashim, the first, second and eleven defendants, against that part of the order of Mr Justice Hoffmann of May 12, 1992, when giving directions on various matters pending the trial of the action due to commence in the Chancery Division early next year, which related to five categories of original or copy documents, bank account transactions, bank statements, foreign exchange contracts, precious metal contracts and loans or deposits, and a substitute order was imposed.

Mr Colin Ross-Munro, QC and Mr Hugo Page for the appellants; Mr Charles Flint for the plaintiff.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that the trial would be concerned with many currency and banking transactions and crucial questions would arise as to whose money were being used and who was the owner of various bank accounts.

The present wording of Order 38, rule 3 had existed since 1954, and his Lordship agreed with the view of Mr Justice Bingham in *H v Solihull Children's Ltd* [1993] 1 WLR 143, 147H that the purpose of the rule was to facilitate the proof of matters which, although in issue, were peripheral to the major issue in the particular action; its purpose was not to permit the adding on a crucial issue under the rule of evidence.

A much broader view of the rule was taken by Mr Justice Hoffmann when he directed that all the documents could be relied on for the purpose of the court (i) drawing such inferences as it thought fit as to the authenticity of the documents, (ii) treating them as admissible evidence of the facts they recorded, and (iii) drawing any other inferences which might be drawn from their contents.

In his Lordship's view that went far too far and was outside what the rule permitted. The rule was concerned only with the proving of "particular facts".

The starting point had to be to identify the particular facts which were to be proved by the means specified in the order made.

The judge had not identified any particular facts but merely identified a large number of documents, and said that they might be relied on as evidence of anything that could be deduced from them.

It would be startling to hold that in civil proceedings wholesale dispersion with the hearsay rule had been readily available since 1954, if not before, by means of an order under the rule as broad as the order in the present case.

A further objection was that the judge was aware that some of the documents were to be challenged by the first defendant, so that the effect of the order was to put the onus on him to disprove the authenticity of those documents in respect of which he would have served a notice under Order 27, rule 4.

Americans switch on to new Dallas dynasty

When it comes to national traditions, Americans have a European would consider to be of disastrously recent growth. Where visiting Brits see a Victorian pile, Americans see an impossibly ancient monument. But we should never, for that reason, underestimate the emotional force they possess.

This is naturally reflected in sport. The tradition of the excellence of the Dallas Cowboys — self-aggrandisingly self-nicknamed "America's Team" — seems to go back to the dawn of time. Odd to reflect that in January, the Super Bowl will be contested for only the 27th time, the FA Cup final has been played 111 times.

"The Cowboys are a part of recognisable America," the team owner, Jerry Jones, said. A little over three years ago, Jones bought the team for a trifling sum estimated at \$140 million. "They are part of the aura of sports — not just the National Football League. My perspective is that they have transcended the NFL. They are above that. They are an institution that people — not just football fans — can recognise. I realised that when I bought the club. They are unique."

The Cowboys have something of the same boundary-breaking profile as Manchester United. Before Channel 4 brought American football into the living room, the Dallas Cowboys were probably the only team most Brits could name. But once it arrived, the Cowboys got left behind. In the mid-Eighties they entered a slump. They are now beginning to emerge. Even this hint of promise has been enough to spawn a thousand headlines: America's Team Is Back.

The ancient tradition of the excellence of the Dallas Cowboys goes back, well, as far as the 1970s, even the 1960s. American football's fortunes have soared annually for the past quarter-century: a rise that began with television, was sustained by television and is still fuelled by television. National television, cable television: football has never failed.

Dallas established their tradition of highly visible victories in that time, when football and television were commencing the still-continuing era of sym-



Simon Barnes on the trail of the revitalised Cowboys and the owner whose cash and controversial methods could trade slump for Super Bowl success



Jones: so impressed by Dallas aura he bought the club

biotic growth. It became the television network's motto: if in doubt, give 'em the Cowboys. Everyone loved the Cowboys. Well, if they didn't, they loathed them so much they would watch in the hope of seeing them beaten. The Cowboys could lose, all right, but television — and football — could not.

"The Cowboys represented success," Jones said. "An aura that was bigger than life. Like Texas, like Dallas." With that went an arrogance that was equally Dallas, equally Texas. The Cowboys made friends, they made enemies, and either way it was great for business. People bought more Cowboys gear than any other in the NFL: they were proud to say to wear the silver and blue star.

When you walk into an institution like the Cowboys,

you expect to wade knee-deep through clatter. You expect to listen to all kinds of guff about integrity and pride. You don't get any of that from Jones.

He is a businessman. He is very serious about keeping eye contact, and he has eyes like stones. He prides himself on being aggressive. "I knew when I took over the club that I was going to have to be very aggressive, that I was going to have to take risks. That is the way it has been. That is the hallmark of the club. We have been aggressive, we have been responsive. When we see an opportunity, we grab it."

Jones, just turned 50, carries the unmistakable hallmark of the unrepentant Eighties and the religion of entrepre-



Johnson: envied



Landry: legendary

neurialism. Brutality is a kind of virtue. Jones came in like a tornado, buying the club from a man called, I promise you, H.R. "Bum" Bright, and promptly fired the head coach, Tom Landry, a legendary person, "a Mount Rushmore figure" as one writer put it, a man who walked up and down the sidelines in a snap-brim hat.

Jones later parted company with the almost equally legendary club president, Tex Schramm. He also traded the yes, legendary player, Herschel Walker. He even managed to inspire a walk-out of cheerleaders.

Jones went on to appoint his former room-mate from college football days, Jimmy Johnson, as head coach, and then reaped the inevitable rewards. The first season of the new

order brought 15 defeats and a single victory.

That inspired a nationwide surge of hate from the legion of success-worshipping Cowboys fans. The public had turned on Landry for losing; now they turned on Jones for firing Landry and still losing. The legions of Cowboy-haters were saddened: Dallas were so bad it was hardly worth the trouble of hating them.

Inspired by Troy Aikman, their quarterback, Dallas Cowboys won their eleventh game of the season on Sunday, and so clinched their place in the play-offs. They have the youngest team in the League. If you want to beat the Cowboys, experts are saying, you had better beat them now. They could go on to dominate the Nineties. America's Team.

Jones owns the club, and is the general manager as well as the entire board of directors. "I wouldn't have bought the club if I had not been able to do it that way," he said. "I come from a business of risk, a business of risk-assessment. My business was drilling oil and gas wells. I am accustomed to getting crushing news."

Jones, it is clear, is what the Irish call a chancer. He has made his fortune by being fast, clever, aggressive and decisive. Sport gives him what many very rich, very able and successful people often lack and desire: fame. Notoriety, if you prefer. Sport exists by feeding on the imagination of the public. Jones entered sport and instantly became a media monster. It is a part he plays very well.

That trade of Herschel Walker was the big move. It is a deal people still talk about: a great player past his best was exchanged for five players and seven more from the college draft system.

All in all, in his brief spell with the club, Jones has made 46 trades: an extraordinary figure. Johnson has become an envied success as head coach. "The Cowboys were not on their back needing mouth-to-mouth resuscitation," Jones said, "they had dropped to a knee. What they needed was a plan and a fresh rest to take advantage of that tradition." Fully enough, Jones comes from Arkansas. But if you want someone to live up to all the British preconceptions of Dallas — Jones is here and in charge. America's Team. Jones's Team.



Aikman: the quarterback who has inspired the Cowboys to a play-off place

SPORTS LETTERS

Gower must accept life without touring

From Dr Anthony P. Hall

Sir, As a doctor, I had the unique experience of accompanying the English cricket team that went to India and Pakistan for the World Cup in 1987. David Gower declared himself unavailable because he decided to take the winter off, but if he had played, perhaps England would have won the World Cup rather than losing the final by seven runs.

In the coming tour of India, England will be playing many of their matches away from the major cities. Life for the touring party may often be rather boring. I am sure that Graham Gooch and his colleagues have chosen the side, they consider best equipped for the arduous tour.

So, as a member of the MCC, I will vote to support the selectors at the meeting on January 27. Let us hope that Gower plays well enough next year to return to the England team.

Yours faithfully,
TONY HALL,
7 Wimpole Street, W1.

From Mr Jonathan Fenton
Sir, The debate over David Gower is not going to lie down and die as the TCCB and the upper echelons of the MCC would wish. It is a great testimony to the manner in which David Gower not only plays the game of cricket but also the way he keeps his dignity that the subject has not been allowed to die.

It has been said that David Gower does not fit into the regime of Messrs Dexter and Gooch. The only problem this seems to cause is that Gower

does not get picked to go on tour. Is it more important to be able to run a half-marathon rather than to dismiss a ball to the boundary without the use of a pair of blacksmith's forceps or half a tree-trunk?

Yours faithfully,
J. FENTON,
Underdown,
Gloucester Road,
Ledbury, Herefordshire.

From Mr John B. Harris
Sir, The future about David Gower is reminiscent of that around Frank Woolley before the final Test against the Australians in 1934. Woolley, too, was a left-hander and a superb stylist who had scored vast numbers of runs in a long career at county and Test level. Close analysis of his Test record suggests that he was a bit more of a fair-weather batsman than Mead, Leyland and Paynter with whom he might be seen to have been in contention, for, with successively Mailey, Grimmett and O'Reilly bowling, at least one left-hander was a must at the time.

In 1930, in four innings, Woolley made only 74, but the 41 he scored in the first innings at Lord's was acclaimed by contemporary writers as seeming to outshine Dale's 173. Chapman's 121 and even Bradman's famous 254 in the same match. One writer, I recall, extolled the huge number of runs Woolley would have made if he had not got out!

There were of course some differences. There was never any question about Woolley's

deportment on or off the field, and Warner wrote of his beautiful throwing when fielding through the Australian innings of 729 for six declared at Lord's in 1930.

Woolley was omitted after the Lord's Test in 1930, did not tour South Africa or Australia in the next few years, and made one appearance against New Zealand in 1931 and India in 1932.

In 1934 Woolley was scoring heavily in county matches and there was tremendous pressure from the press for his recall, especially after England's narrow escape, saved by rain, at Leeds after the first of the huge Bradman-Ponsford contributions. So, he came into the side, and went in at 104 for one — which looked respectable enough until it was set against the 701 that Australia had made.

Alas, in that innings and again in the second, Woolley's failure, and the manner of it, was a cause for real sadness: it was abject. Ironically, it was Leyland who produced a magnificent fighting hundred in the first innings and brought a trace of respectability into the England batting before an eventual 562-run defeat. I saw his batting and treasure the memory. Would that we had another Leyland today!

Yours faithfully,
JOHN B. HARRIS,
31 Princesdale Road, W11.

From Mr F. J. Josling
Sir, Even Caddington Cricket Club does not select its team by a survey of attitudes in The Chequers or The Cricketers, and once the team is posted on Wednesday in the post office there is certainly not an assessment of public reaction.

Perhaps selectors and umpires carry greater respect at this level.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN JOSLING,
Badger's Holt,
Caddington,
Luton, Bedfordshire.

Welsh origins

From Mr David Watkins
Sir, Recent letters (November 27, December 4) about crowd behaviour at Cardiff triggered my memory. The first time I recall sustained booing (and jeering) was at the Middlesex

Defiance of authority

From Mr Peter Blaseby

Sir, One effect of the considerable rainfall over the past month has been for the National Rivers Authority to instruct rowers not to go out on the non-tidal Thames.

This has caused much disappointment amongst the large rowing community, including substantial cost to clubs such as my own who traditionally organise large events at this time of the year. In an amateur sport, such a loss seriously affects their financial strength, especially in hard times.

However, responsible club officials have taken heed of the instruction and their enthusiastic members are either having to make do with rowing machines or make lengthy trips by motorway to unaffected water.

Yet last weekend, despite official warnings and two accidents at Oxford and Henley during the previous week, the most prestigious rowing club in the country, Leander, boasted two clubs eight at Henley. This can only be viewed as a huge snub to authority and common sense. We know that in years past crews rowed in conditions far worse, but that is beside the point.

The most alarming fact is that their national squad members had already been told by the Amateur Rowing Association not to defy the restriction, but the club put its own crews out.

Whether the ARA or its regional counterpart can impose an effective penalty remains to be tested, but I would hope that the club itself takes action against its members who were responsible for such conduct.

Yours faithfully,
PETER BLASEBY,
(Mallow Rowing Club under-13 coach),
22 Bovingdon Heights,
Mallow,
Buckinghamshire.

Sevens — each time London Welsh appeared. In those days commentators called it "friendly booing".

Perhaps it was their sons who creamed the "good humoured" booing and whistling at Twickenham in the Barbarians match to contrast

Football loses its direction

From Mr Jerry Morton

Sir, Why should Graham Taylor worry about his warning that football is being overexposed on television (report, November 28)? He speaks the truth.

Too many matches are running our best footballers into the ground. Supporters don't get value for money as the players are either too tired or injured. There is not the sense of occasion there used to be Saturday afternoon was sacred. So much football and so much on television is creating an audience of sedentary, square-eyed supporters.

Chairmen treat football clubs as toys to play around with and impress their friends. Nor do they appear interested in the overall future of the game. Everything revolves around money and club success — as soon as the first instalment of television money rolled in they went and spent it on new players, thus fuelling

the transfer market to even greater heights.

What did the supporter get out of it? Better, safer facilities, new lavatories. You must be joking. They don't buy success.

The less said about the FA's role in regulating all this the better. "We don't want to interfere; we must not upset the chairmen, they know best."

True supporters should vote with their feet and demonstrate their power and passion for the game — the miners did it very well. The chairmen and the FA might notice if the grounds were empty one Saturday afternoon.

I am sure managers and players will support the action because, if none is taken, the game as we used to know it will not be around in a few years.

Yours sincerely,
JERRY MORTON,
104 Haldon Road, SW18.

Attacking option

From Mr K. C. Bass

Sir, It is remarkable that Norwich City are eight points clear at the top of the FA Premier League with a tally of 34 goals for and 31 against (average 1.09 from 18 games).

These figures should be compared with those of Manchester United, who are fifth

in the table: 20 goals for and 13 against (average 1.53 from 18 games).

Does this mean that a strong defence is no longer a prerequisite for a potential winner of the league?

Yours faithfully,
K. C. BASS,
5 Ailingdon,
Woodside Park, N12.

Lucrative action

From Mr Antony Allott

Sir, In my innocence, I read (December 4) that Harry "Butch" Reynolds sued for and was awarded damages against the IAAF in an American court. I note two points:

1. The IAAF's full title is the International Amateur Athletic Federation (my italics).

2. Reynolds claims that, had it not been for the ban on him,

he would have earned "an estimated \$4 to 5 million in appearance fees and endorsement income".

If an amateur can earn so much, how much could a professional earn?

If he can earn \$27.3 million from the court by way of compensatory and punitive damages by not running, why bother to run?

Yours faithfully,
ANTONY ALLOTT,
Sorbroke Mill,
Bodicote,
Banbury,
Oxfordshire.

he would have earned "an estimated \$4 to 5 million in appearance fees and endorsement income".

If an amateur can earn so much, how much could a professional earn?

If he can earn \$27.3 million from the court by way of compensatory and punitive damages by not running, why bother to run?

Yours faithfully,
ANTONY ALLOTT,
Sorbroke Mill,
Bodicote,
Banbury,
Oxfordshire.

Sports Letters may be sent by fax to 071-782 5046. They should include a daytime telephone number.

BASKETBALL

Guildford search for consolation in cup

By NICHOLAS HARLING

GUILDFORD Kings will be looking for consolation in the national cup tonight for their almost certain abdication of the Carlsberg league title.

Guildford hope to have Alton Byrd in action at Crystal Palace, even though the England guard, 35, will go into hospital on December 21 for an operation on a torn knee cartilage.

With Russ Saunders certain to be keen to put one over on the champions, who released him in the summer, Guildford need even a half-fit Byrd more than ever. Byrd was restricted by the injury on Saturday during his club's fifth league defeat of the season, an 81-72 loss at home to Thames Valley Tigers, who stretched their lead at the top of the table to four points.

Kevin Cadle, the Guildford coach, said: "It kind of did us in Alton being hurt. It meant that we had a half-court offence with no easy baskets. We had to work for everything."

Thames Valley exploited the early departure of Trevor Gordon and Martin Henlan, who both fouled out and the shooting frailties of Henlan and Carl Miller to win a game which would have graced the

Spectrum Arena, had Guildford's new home court been open in time to stage the fixture as planned.

Not that the atmosphere there could have been any better than it was in the packed Guildford sports centre, where the Thames Valley supporter who was asked to remove his drum from a spare seat rightly refused to do so. He duly produced a second ticker that he had bought for the drum.

Guildford had nobody to compare with the exceptional Nigel Lloyd, who collected 23 points for the second night running — including seven in a devastating three minutes when Guildford were outscored 15-2 — having masterminded the previous evening's 98-78 defeat of Derby Hawks. Thames Valley have played two games more than Worthing Bears, in second place, who easily beat Hemel Hempstead 100-74.

At the foot of the table, Cheshire Jets registered their first league win of the season, beating Sunderland 89-68. Cheshire's new Americans made a big impression, especially Tyrone Thomas, who scored 26 points.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 44

YUKE

(b) To itch, Scottish and Northern dialect, cf. MDutch *jeuken* to itch; Walter Scott, as usual with obsolete dialect: "It had been a business job that; by my certie, some o' our necks wad hae been yalcing."

VALI

(b) A civil governor of a Turkish province or *vilayet*, from the Turkish Arabic, cf. *wali*: "The corrupt and inefficient government of the Vali of Belant." The Vali, like nearly all Turkish officials, had discarded the Turkish costume.

PADROADIST

(b) A Roman Catholic who favours or supports the *padroado* or ecclesiastical patronage claimed by the King of Portugal in India, from the Portuguese *padroado* patronage: "Padroadists and Propagandists are regarded as two distinct sects."

NEPENTHES

(a) A drug of Egyptian origin mentioned in the *Odyssey* as capable of banishing grief or trouble from the mind, from the Greek *ne* not + *penthos* grief: "It is the true Nepenthes, which makes a sad man frolic." Some will have it [Bogloss] the Nepenthes of Homer.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

White finishes off with 1 Qxb6+ Ke8 (1 ... Kc8 2 Qc7 mate) 2 Qb8+ mating.

Golf's prize pupil called to meet the head master



Hogan: mystique

By MITCHELL PLATTS
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

NICK Faldo, the world's leading golfer, described his surprise meeting last month with Ben Hogan, one of the four players to win all four major championships, as that of a schoolboy meeting a headmaster for the first time.

Faldo, with two Open championships and two US Masters titles to his credit, said that the invitation to visit Hogan, now 80, at his home in Fort Worth, Texas, came out of the blue. "I don't know of a man in any sport who has

the aura of mystique that he commands, and I never dreamt I would meet him face to face," Faldo said.

"After all the stories I've read and heard of him being an iron man, I did wonder how I would be greeted. I have certainly never felt so in awe of somebody. It is quite something when you first meet Nicklaus and Palmer, but this was totally different."

Faldo said he had sat up most of the night preparing a list of questions about Hogan himself and his swing. "I asked how he played, how he practised, how he achieved all

he did, and it was very clear that the most important thing in his life was hitting the golf ball," Faldo said. "He hasn't actually hit a ball now for three years, but he still looks in tremendous shape."

"I spoke to Mr Hogan about his practice routine and I was so pleased that his key swing thoughts were similar to mine. We spoke of our thoughts on leg action and arm action."

Faldo is regarded as the most complete golfer since Hogan, who won nine major championships. He has committed himself to the practice

range in much the same way as the Americans; he can, like Hogan, be brittle at times but he is essentially shy. He is also charitable with both his time and his money.

Faldo has strived to lose a reputation of being a loner. His intense and melancholy appearance on the fairways has not endeared him to the public. This intensity, while a vital part of his game, has worked against his image.

"Perhaps I showed it too much on occasions," he said. "But I think I made a pretty good turn-around in 1992, considering I had been the

same way for 16 years. I did used to get very down on myself for hitting bad shots. I'm still puzzled when I do, and I want to correct the faults, but I'm much lighter on myself when things do go wrong. And I no longer regard golf as the be-all and end-all of life."

Faldo's wife, Gill, is expecting their third child in late March, so he will probably miss The Players Championship. "We were originally told the baby was due in Masters week," he said. "I'm not quite sure how we would have worked that one out."

Faldo's immediate aim is the Johnnie Walker World Championship, which starts in Jamaica next Thursday, before taking a five-week break. His thoughts for 1993 are clear: "If I could have one career wish for next year it would be to win the US Open."

That would leave Faldo with only the US PGA Championship to win to become the fifth player to collect the grand slam of all four major championships, and in so doing emulate Gene Sarazen, Jack Nicklaus, Gary Player and, of course, Hogan.



Faldo: in awe

CRICKET

Sri Lanka settle Test series with rare win

FROM OUR SPORTS STAFF

Colombo: Sri Lanka raced to a nine-wicket victory over New Zealand on the fourth day of their second and final Test match at the Sinhalese Sports Club here yesterday.

It was Sri Lanka's first win over New Zealand in 11 Tests and their third victory in 42 Tests, having previously beaten India in 1985 and Pakistan in 1986 in Colombo.

Sri Lanka also clinched the series 1-0, the first Test having been drawn. Martin Crowe, the New Zealand captain, was sidelined by a hamstring injury and will miss the rest of the tour.

Sri Lanka reached the target of 70 runs in the fifth over with 52 of the runs coming off 13 boundaries. The opener, Roshan Mahanama, scored six of the boundaries in his breezy innings of 29. Despite Mahanama's exit with the score on 36, Chandika Hathurusinghe and Asanka Gurusinghe guided the side home with an unbroken stand of 34.

Hundreds of spectators surged on to the field as Hathurusinghe hit the winning run off the part-time bowler, Andrew Jones, who led New Zealand in Crowe's absence.

Hashan Tillekeratne brought extra glory for Sri Lanka when he took the man-of-the-match award for equalising a world record seven catches in a match and for scoring 93 in the first innings.

The record is held jointly by Greg Chappell, of Australia, and Yashvir Singh, of India, both of whom achieved the feat in Test matches against England.

Earlier, the wicketkeeper, Adam Parore, and the New Zealand tail put up some determined resistance, adding

84 runs to their overnight score of 277 before their second innings ended in the sixth over after lunch at 361.

Parore hit a defiant 60 that included four boundaries and figured in two useful stands of 31 and 44 with the seam bowlers, Chris Pringle and Michael Owens. (Agencies)

SRI LANKA: First innings 354 R S Mahanama 106, H P Tillekeratne 83, A Ranasinghe 78; M B Owens 4 for 101.

NEW ZEALAND: First innings 106 R S Mahanama 106, H P Tillekeratne 83, A Ranasinghe 78; M B Owens 4 for 101.

SECOND INNING: Sri Lanka 291, New Zealand 106. Sri Lanka won by 9 wickets.

THIRD INNING: Sri Lanka 291, New Zealand 106. Sri Lanka won by 9 wickets.

FOURTH INNING: Sri Lanka 291, New Zealand 106. Sri Lanka won by 9 wickets.

FIFTH INNING: Sri Lanka 291, New Zealand 106. Sri Lanka won by 9 wickets.

SIXTH INNING: Sri Lanka 291, New Zealand 106. Sri Lanka won by 9 wickets.

SEVENTH INNING: Sri Lanka 291, New Zealand 106. Sri Lanka won by 9 wickets.

EIGHTH INNING: Sri Lanka 291, New Zealand 106. Sri Lanka won by 9 wickets.

NINTH INNING: Sri Lanka 291, New Zealand 106. Sri Lanka won by 9 wickets.

TENTH INNING: Sri Lanka 291, New Zealand 106. Sri Lanka won by 9 wickets.

ELEVENTH INNING: Sri Lanka 291, New Zealand 106. Sri Lanka won by 9 wickets.

Twelfth Inning: Sri Lanka 291, New Zealand 106. Sri Lanka won by 9 wickets.

Thirteenth Inning: Sri Lanka 291, New Zealand 106. Sri Lanka won by 9 wickets.

Fourteenth Inning: Sri Lanka 291, New Zealand 106. Sri Lanka won by 9 wickets.

Fifteenth Inning: Sri Lanka 291, New Zealand 106. Sri Lanka won by 9 wickets.

Sixteenth Inning: Sri Lanka 291, New Zealand 106. Sri Lanka won by 9 wickets.

Seventeenth Inning: Sri Lanka 291, New Zealand 106. Sri Lanka won by 9 wickets.



Karen Roberts, right, was named 1992 Young Sports Woman of the Year yesterday (Louise Taylor writes). One of Britain's foremost young judo players, Roberts, 15, received £5,500 to help cover her travelling and training expenses from the award's sponsors — Tampax and the Women's Sports Foundation.

Roberts, from Berkshire, won the junior world championship in Argentina this year and a bronze medal at last week's European championships in Israel.

Sally Gummell, who presented Roberts with her award, said: "I am so pleased about these awards for the young women of this country. I know from experience how difficult it is to manage the financial burden caused by training when you have no regular income."

Zoe Edge, 17, from Chesterfield, was named Young Disabled Sports Woman of the Year. Edge, who has cerebral palsy and is an international boccia competitor, intends to use her prize of £1,500 to

help purchase a new electric sports wheelchair. An individual award went to Fiona Fazackerley, a volleyball player from Stone, Fazackerley is 18 and intends to put her £1,500 towards travel and training costs. The team/community programme winners were ACTIVATE from Leeds.

In the coaching category, Lisa Jackson, 17, was presented with £1,500. Jackson is a football coach and will invest the cash in courses to enhance her training skills.

BOXING

Lewis plans to show Bowe

By SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT

LENNOX Lewis could knock out this weekend whether Riddick Bowe will defend his world heavyweight title against him in April, as the World Boxing Council (WBC) has ordered.

Bowe and his manager, Rock Newman, are expected in London for the BBC's *Sports Personality of the Year* show and Lewis intends to accept the offer of £3 million (about £1.9 million) that his

negotiating team turned down last month. Lewis is on holiday in Canada but could make a special trip home to put Bowe on the spot.

Frank Maloney, Lewis's manager, said yesterday: "Lennox wants to fight him for \$3 million but I think it's wrong. The fight is worth \$30 million and I don't see why he should fight for ten per cent."

Maloney said it was Lewis international title through two brutal battles with another Argentinian, Ricardo Nolasco, but lost sight of his boxing. He thought he could outpunch Wally Swift to take his British title but failed. In October, he was stopped in seven rounds by the American, Curtis Sumrit.

Much will depend on Collins's strategy. Till, having won the British title from Swift, will want to carry the fight to Collins. If Collins fights, he could lose. If he boxes, he should win.

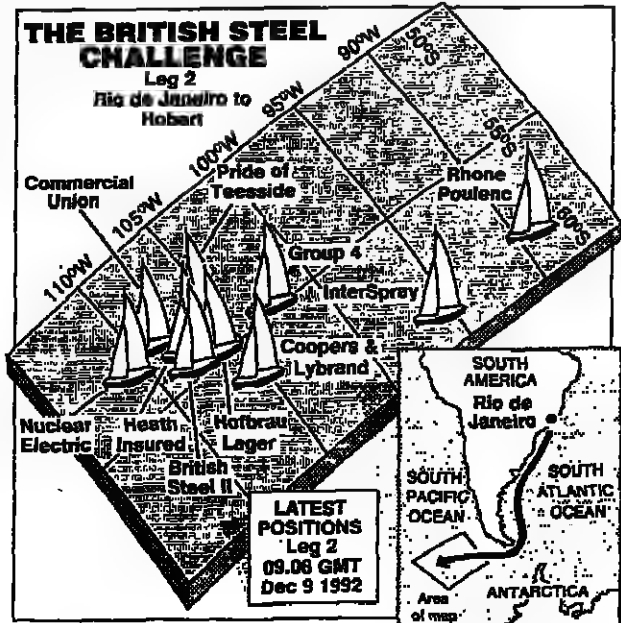
ANDY TILL, of Northolt, defends his British light-middleweight title against Tony Collins, of Yateley, at the York Hall, Bethnal Green, tonight (Srikumar Sen writes).

Years ago, Collins was the boxer — clever, neat and elusive, with a touch of class. He won 25 of his first 26 contests. But after surviving a logging match with Hugo Marinangeli, of Argentina, to lift the World Boxing Council (WBC) international title, he fancied himself as a fighter.

He held on to his WBC

international title through two brutal battles with another Argentinian, Ricardo Nolasco, but lost sight of his boxing. He thought he could outpunch Wally Swift to take his British title but failed. In October, he was stopped in seven rounds by the American, Curtis Sumrit.

Much will depend on Collins's strategy. Till, having won the British title from Swift, will want to carry the fight to Collins. If Collins fights, he could lose. If he boxes, he should win.



Poor conditions testing trailing yachts

By KEITH WHEATLEY

NUCLEAR Electric, skippered by John Chittenden, has maintained an 80-mile lead over Commercial Union at the head of the British Steel Challenge round-the-world yacht race fleet. The margin has been held for nearly a week.

Fortunately, there have been no further breakages of the forestry bottlescrews, which have failed on three boats in the past 72 hours.

Many of the other yachts have run extra lines from the masthead to the bow in case of a failure.

Aboard Hofbrau Lager, one of the three boats to suffer, sail

repairs have been constant. Rebecca Slater, the sailmaker, has been stitching by torchlight continuously and the sail is now back in use. "The feeling of comradeship that even a small emergency can generate in the right crew is tremendous," Tristan Lewis, one of Slater's 13 colleagues, said.

Rhone Poulenc, which had to call into the Falkland Islands last week for mast repairs, is now back in touch with the fleet. Despite two days at anchor in Port Stanley, the yacht is now less than a day's sailing behind InterSpray, the backmarker.

Peter Phillips, the Rhone Poulenc skipper, reported that

they struggled round Cape Horn dispirited by the light weather which stopped them dosing up on the rest of the field. Since then they have had strong winds and have been achieving the highest 12-hour mileages since last weekend, often as much as 30 to 40 miles per boat more in some cases. Conditions in the Southern Ocean, however, remain hostile.

"It is intensely cold, particularly at night, with freezing water continually sweeping the decks and cockpit and drenching everybody," Phillips said.

"Fortunately, the dry suits, although difficult to put on, are proving their worth at

keeping people's bodies dry and warm enough to work. The boat is full of condensation, wet clothing and wet sails. It is a continuous battle to keep things under control down below."

"Mixed into all of this are torrential rain and hail showers. Eating ranges between the difficult and the impossible. Often it is just a case of instant soup or whatever is to hand."

Phillips said that, despite the conditions, morale remains high.

LEADING POSITIONS (at 1500 GMT yesterday with miles to Hobart): 1, Nuclear Electric, 3,842; 2, Commercial Union, 3,825; 3, Rhone Poulenc, 3,812; 4, Hofbrau Lager, 3,797; 5, InterSpray, 3,782; 6, Nucleon, 3,767; 7, Cooper & Lybrand, 3,752; 8, Group 4, 3,737; 9, InterSpray, 3,722; 10, Rhone Poulenc, 3,697.

RACING

Bookmakers reply to harsh words of senior steward

By MICHAEL SEELY

BOOKMAKERS yesterday reacted angrily to Lord Hartington's inflammatory speech at Tuesday night's Gimcrack dinner.

Using this traditional occasion as his platform, the senior steward of the Jockey Club's frustration to wrest significantly more money from the betting industry boiled over.

Describing efforts to woo the bookmakers as "an exercise in futility", Lord Hartington called for immediate action, otherwise the Jockey Club would reverse the changes that have already been made to the fixture list.

The Betting Office Licences' Association (Bola) criticised the senior steward for failing to acknowledge its members' increased contribution to the sport through a reduction in betting duties as "bordering on the ungrateful".

A statement on behalf of Bola said: "Lord Hartington's comments illustrate yet again the Jockey Club's failure to understand how the levy works and the advantages this system of funding offers to racing. The truth, however, is that any amendments to the racing programme which increase off-course turnover also benefit the levy."

Berjia Dayer, the managing-director of Ladbrokes Racing, Britain's largest bookmaker, was even more outspoken. "We are amazed at this outburst," he said. "Threats are counter-productive and will get us nowhere. We certainly won't be seeing

Lord Hartington before Christmas."

Dayer, in common with other leaders of the bookmaking industry, considered that fruitful discussions with the Jockey Club were being conducted.

"I'm staggered by this," he went on. "I have spoken to the senior steward every day for the past week because I've been trying to assist them with the VAT and breeders' problems."

"Throughout this time, Lord Hartington has given us no hint of any problems whatsoever and we thought that progress was being made."

Dayer described the Jockey Club as being "too greedy". He said: "The Jockey Club appear to have an insatiable appetite and they're always asking for more. This is the core of the problem. Apart from the £11 million, SIS are currently doing a deal with the racetracks which will mean a large extra injection of cash into the RCA."

Sir John Sparrow, chairman of the Levy Board, who was also a target of Lord Hartington's criticism, reacted in dignified fashion. "I disagree with much of what Lord Hartington said. I do not think that the interests of racing are best served by public name-calling. I have no comment to make other than that I will continue to impress upon racing and bookmakers the need for on-going and constructive dialogue."

Error forces rerun of Haydock hurdle

AN EXTRAORDINARY error by a member of the Haydock groundstaff threw the running of yesterday's Waterloo Hurdle into confusion (Michael Seely writes).

After the four jockeys involved had been forced to take avoiding action at the second hurdle, which should not have been doloed off, they then completed a circuit before deciding to pull up.

The riders decided to start the race again before the first flight in the straight and, after jumping a further nine flights, Richard Dunwoody brought his Mighty Mogul home six lengths clear of Ambuscade.

Philip Arkwright, the clerk of the course, said: "It was human error. The second race had been a chase and the member of the groundstaff turned over two pages on his racecard by mistake, and thought that the next event was a steeplechase. He therefore put the cones back in front of the hurdle as well."

David Nicholson, Mighty Mogul's trainer, was quick to realise what had happened. He rushed down to the rails in front of the grandstand and waved his arms at the runners.

The result was allowed to stand as no rules had been contravened but the manner has been referred to the Jockey Club.

Dunwoody, having recorded his 800th career winner, said: "I have never ridden one remotely like this in the other 799." Mighty Mogul remains 10-1 with Corals for the Champion Hurdle.

Dunwoody continued his eventful afternoon by landing a double on Twin Oaks, who recorded his eighth win from nine starts over the Haydock fences when beating Par's Jester by 12 lengths in the Tommy Whittle Chase.

The winner jumped with his usual mixture of boldness and cleverness, but unfortunately Par's Jester had broken down before jumping the last fence. The runner-up has therefore been removed from the betting on the King George VI Chase.

Gordon Richards, the winning trainer, was attending Arthur Stephenson's funeral but his son, Nicky, said: "We are far more likely to come back here for the Peter Marsh Chase in January than go for the Welsh National."

Parrett was killed by heart attack

Parrett was killed by heart attack

Parrett was killed by heart attack

Parrett was killed by heart attack

Parrett was killed by heart attack

Parrett was killed by heart attack

Parrett was killed by heart attack

Parrett was killed by heart attack

Parrett was killed by heart attack

Parrett was killed by heart attack

Parrett was killed by heart attack

Parrett was killed by heart attack

Wimbledon player risks rise in penalty

Jones lodges appeal against £20,000 FA fine over video

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

VINNIE Jones, the Wimbledon player who was fined a record £20,000 for his connection with a video entitled *Soccer's Hard Men*, yesterday decided to lodge an appeal with the Football Association (FA) against the fine and six-month suspended ban. But Jones, 27, risks having to pay even more if the decision goes against him at a date to be fixed after Christmas.

"If the appeal is lost, the commission's options include increasing the fine, the suspension, or both," an FA official said.

Jones was found guilty on a disrepute charge three weeks ago after the FA decided his involvement in the controversial video tarnished the game's image. On it, the former Leeds, Sheffield United and Chelsea player comments about unsavoury match incidents, including raking studs down an opponent's shin and grabbing private parts.

Jones, who defended himself, was shocked by the severity of a fine almost three times larger than the previous highest on an individual player. At the time Jones said: "It's a lot of money to save up but I'll pay and get it over with."

His change of heart seems to have been influenced by the Wimbledon owner, Sam Hammam, who was furious with the verdict, claiming it was out of step with previous cases and penalised Wimbledon, although Jones was at another club when making the video.

"If the suspended ban stays in force it will devalue our player," Hammam said. "If Wimbledon were relegated and we tried to sell Vinnie because we could no longer afford his wages, who would buy him with this suspended sentence hanging over him?"

FA regulations stipulate that clubs cannot pay players' fines or appeal on their behalf. But Hammam added: "Vinnie can give us something back and help us a great deal."

A new three-man commission will be appointed by the FA to hear the appeal. A member of the original commission will give evidence as to why the verdict was reached.

On a brighter note, the Leyton Orient managing director, Frank Clark, was yesterday given a new job — as the manager's manager.

Clark, 49, has been appointed chief executive of the

League Managers' Association but he will continue at Brisbane Road after being given permission by the chairman, Tony Wood, to combine both posts.

"My chairman is quite happy about it," Clark said. "Far from creating a clash of interests, the two roles are in many respects complementary. With a foot in both camps I'm ideally placed to convince people that the LMA is a positive organisation."

"Our main objective is to try to make a major contribution to the game's welfare in future. A key part of the LMA job is to meet managers and find out their views on issues of the moment. I already do a lot of that in my daily activity at Orient."

Clark will take over as chief executive on January 1 from John Camkin, 70, a former Coventry director, who will become the secretary. The post is made possible by sponsorship from Barclays Bank.

West Ham were yesterday given a work permit for the Canadian international striker, Alex Bunbury, 25, for whom they have set up a £200,000 transfer with the Supra club, of Montreal.

Club hopes to cash in on cup-tie

SCARBOROUGH expect to have their ground capacity raised to 9,600 for their Coca-Cola Cup fourth-round tie with Arsenal on December 23 after an approach to North Yorkshire county council (Martin Seaby writes). The extra 1,424 customers will ensure record receipts for the third-division club.

Scarborough's average league attendance is 1,688, only 109 better than the lowest, Halifax, and they expect to make a profit of around £21,000 from their biggest pay-day since their match against Wolverhampton Wanderers five years ago, their first after winning promotion to the Football League, which yielded £19,754.

"This match is not about money or we would have cashed in," Geoffrey Richmond, the chairman said. "We had three alternatives: to switch to a neutral ground like Elland Road, which could have generated £100,000; to increase prices; or to keep faith with the fans and our business sponsors."

"I know we haven't many supporters but they are the only ones we've got." More people will see the Arsenal tie than turned out in total to watch the three previous home games in the competition against Bradford City, Coventry City and Plymouth Argyle, Richmond said. "The demand has been phenomenal."

Anglo-Italian Cup players see red

BY LOUISE TAYLOR

SHOULD the Anglo-Italian Cup be renamed The Red Card Trophy? Intended to promote goodwill, the competition between English first division sides and those from Italy's Serie B has prompted a rash of sendings off.

Four more players were dismissed during Tuesday night's round of matches. Paul Walsh, the Portsmouth striker, retaliated after being brought down by Roberto Maria, of Lucchese, at Fratton Park and both received their marching orders before Portsmouth went on to win 2-1 in a Group A match.

In the same group, Ascoli — parties to a 22-man fracas at Newcastle United last month — had Rosario Pergolizzi sent off in a 1-1 draw at Birmingham.

Brentford top Group A thanks to a 1-0 win at Cesena, where Joe Allen's eightieth-minute goal in front of 450 spectators preserved his side's unbeaten Anglo-Italian Cup record.

Allen, who has now scored four times for Brentford since his £275,000 transfer from Chelsea last month. He began his career at Newcastle United, who suffered their heaviest defeat of the season, losing 3-0 at Bari. Cappachione scored twice for the Italians.

Newcastle, the winners of the cup when it was last staged in the 1970s, now have no chance of qualifying for the semi-finals. Not that Kevin

Keegan, their manager, seemed overly bothered — he fielded only three regular first-team players in Italy.

Tuesday's other dismissal came in a Group B match at Bristol City, who had David Thompson, a substitute, sent off. City's 2-1 defeat to Reggiana means that they have lost all three international stage matches and have no chance of progressing further.

Derby County could yet make the semi-finals, but they lost 3-1 at home to Cremonese, the leaders of Serie B who also went top of Group B. It was the seventh time County have lost at the Baseball Ground this season.

West Ham United kept in contention for the later stages with a 1-0 Group B win at Cosenza courtesy of a goal from Clive Allen, while, in the same division, Kenny Irons gave Tranmere Rovers a 1-0 win at Pisa.

Steve Moran, Alan Ball's first signing on becoming Exeter City manager 16 months ago, repaid Ball's faith on Tuesday by scoring a hat-trick as Exeter demolished Torquay United 5-0 at home in the first round of the Autoglass Trophy.

Brian Horton, the Hartlepool United winger, helped the second division club to a 4-1 home win against Scarborough in the Autoglass Trophy. Horton scored one of Hartlepool's goals and made two others.



To the fore: McEnroe returns to Kulti during his 6-1, 6-4 victory yesterday

TENNIS

Agassi reveals his need for guiding fire of McEnroe

BY ANDREW LONGMORE, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

ONE of the more unlikely partnerships might be forged over the next year, if Andre Agassi has his way. After his defeat by Michael Chang in the first round of the Grand Slam Cup in Munich yesterday, Agassi announced that he intended to enlist the help of John McEnroe in an attempt to add a more competitive edge to his game.

As if rehearsing for the role, McEnroe sat at the side of the court for much of Agassi's match, having earlier postponed his own competitive singles farewell with a comprehensive victory over Nicklas Kulti in the opening match. McEnroe served 12 aces in his 6-1, 6-4 win, but the end might be nigh. McEnroe plays Goran Ivanisevic in the quarter-final today.

Quite what form the McEnroe-Agassi axis will take is as yet unknown. For a start, given the understandably delicate state of the McEnroe psyche after his well-publicised marital troubles, the question is who will be the one lying on the couch?

"The logistics of the partnership could be difficult," Agassi explained. "John has a lot of things going on in his mind right now and so it just a question of finding the time to put our energies into it."

The organisers gave McEnroe compassionate leave of absence from his compulsory post-match press conference yesterday because of the "unbearable personal pressures" on him. If he is absent again today, he could be fined up to \$10,000, which would be a suitable ending to a controversial career. He will earn a minimum of \$300,000.

The potential union of the two Wimbledon champions has a certain undeniable logic to it. Agassi, as his patchy record shows, has trouble motivating himself for anything other than the big occasion. McEnroe's career has been characterised and blighted in equal measure by an excess of competitive zeal. Should McEnroe unearth hidden reserves of determination within

Agassi's fragile mind, the Las Vegas could yet reach his target of becoming the best player in the world. He certainly has McEnroe's instinct and touch.

"One thing I need when I step on court is to be ready, willing and prepared to win. A lot of times I'm not," Agassi said. "In grand slams and Davis Cup, I'm prepared to dig as deep as it takes to win, but I don't feel that way the majority of time. John can help me in that way and we have plans to work together." The plan apparently has the blessing of Agassi's long-time coach, Nick Bollettieri, who was also at court yesterday, though not within McEnroe's range.

Neither the presence of McEnroe nor Father Christmas, who made a brief appearance midway through the second set, could help Agassi's adjustment from the slow, hard courts of the Davis Cup final to the quicker carpet surface of the Olympiad. Unlike Pete Sampras, who had arrived from Fort Worth on Monday night, Agassi had accompanied McEnroe to New York and not reached Munich until Tuesday. Chang had been in town since Friday and was only too eager to exploit his compatriot's lack of timing.

For once, Agassi did not give up the ghost at the first sign of trouble. Though he lost the first set on a double-fault and dropped an early break in the second with a careless volley, five of the eight games in the second set went to deuce. He was also given a code violation for ball abuse, though he would have been better off hitting his volleys with more force. Chang was given too much time to execute the inevitable stream of passes, two of which — one backhand, one forehand — completed his 6-4, 6-2 victory in 100 minutes. "It was a shot in the dark," Agassi said. McEnroe did not wait to see the end.

RESULTS: First round: R. Agassi (1982) 6-1, 6-4, 6-2 J. McEnroe (USA) 6-1, 6-4, 6-2. Second round: M. Chang (USA) 6-3, 6-2, 6-1 A. Agassi (USA) 6-4, 6-2.

RUGBY UNION

London look to solid centre pair

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

LONDON's wealth of talent was amply illustrated yesterday when they bought Fran Clough and Damian Hopley together for the game against the South and South-West at Gloucester on Saturday, which will have a critical influence on the ADT Divisional championship.

Clough, who will be required to pass a fitness test on strained hip ligaments this evening, and Hopley form one of the more substantial centre pairings in domestic rugby: at 6ft 1in and 6ft 2in, respectively, both weigh about 15 stone.

London prefer to John Buckton and Mark Evans and make a third change to the side that beat the Midlands

26-16 by including Alex Snow at lock. Snow, fit after recovering from concussion, replaces Mark Russell, which means that London play at least one recognised lock, after choosing to go into last Saturday's game with five loose forwards.

Hopley's selection gives him the platform from which to revive his challenge for a place in the England squad, notably against Phil de Glanville, who won his first cap as a replacement against South Africa last month.

The South-West will play de Glanville and Jeremy Guscott on Saturday in a side unchanged from that which beat the North 29-9. That means there is no place for Victor

Ubogu, capped twice at tight-head prop by England this season; Ubogu has not played for three weeks because of a rib injury, and the divisional selectors are happy to give John Mallett another outing.

The North, who play the Midlands at Watford, will be without Dewi Morris and Wade Dooley, the England internationals, both of whom have rib injuries. David Scully plays at scrum half and David Baldwin, the England B player, comes into the second row.

LONDON DIVISION (Wages unless stated): A. Buzze, S. Phipps, F. Clough, D. Hopley (Gloucester), D. O'Leary (Gloucester), R. Andrews, S. Bales, J. Leonard (Gloucester), B. Moore (Gloucester), J. Probyn, M. Sidner (Gloucester), A. Snow (Gloucester), R. Lushington (Gloucester), J. Cunnell (Gloucester), D. Ryan.

Burke chooses Ireland instead of England

PAUL Burke, who added an under-21 appearance with England in October to his English Schools caps, has thrown in his lot with Ireland. (David Hands writes). Burke, the London Irish stand-off half, was included yesterday in an Ireland B squad from which a side to play Scotland in Dublin on December 28 will be chosen.

He is one of a dozen players new to this level, among them Michael Patton and Niall Malone, for whom selection may compensate for Oxford's defeat by Cambridge on Tuesday. Barry O'Mahony makes up an Oxford trio but Malone and Burke will vie for the

No. 10 shirt, knowing that a senior cap may not be far away.

Burke was born and educated in England but his family is Irish and the prospect of representative honours in the green may seem that much nearer.

The squad of 25, which will train on Sunday at Lansdown Road under the direction of Harry Williams, includes five senior internationals. Williams will be able to watch six squad members playing for the Irish Exiles against his own Ulster team on Saturday at Roshampton in a match which will have a crucial bearing on the inter-provincial championship.

SNOOKER

McManus takes control

THE importance of confidence at the highest level was graphically illustrated when Alan McManus opened a surprise 6-2 lead over Stephen Hendry, the world champion, in their best-of-17-frame quarter-final at the £160,000 Coaltie World Matchplay in Doncaster yesterday. (Phil Yates writes).

McManus is full of self-belief after reaching the semi-finals of the first three ranking events of the season. In stark contrast, Hendry's form has

collapsed and he is experiencing his worst period as a professional.

Hendry's suspect safety-play and erratic long pots left McManus, sixth in the provisional world rankings, requiring only three of the remaining nine frames. Should he get them, he would repeat his victory over Hendry at the UK championship and earn a place in the semi-final against James Wattana.

RESULTS: A. McManus (Scott) leads S. Hendry (Scott), 6-2.

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Atlanta Hawks 122, Chicago Bulls 114; Los Angeles Clippers 115, Cleveland Cavaliers 106; Phoenix Suns 105, New Jersey Nets 100; New York Knicks 100, Seattle SuperSonics 88; Boston Celtics 117, Orlando Magic 102; Miami Heat 108, Dallas Mavericks 112; Houston Rockets 100, Minnesota Timberwolves 94; San Antonio Spurs 121, Utah Jazz 100; Indiana Pacers 125, Golden State Warriors 116; Portland Trail Blazers 102, Washington Wizards 97; Washington Bullets 114, Sacramento Kings 106.

FOOTBALL

UEFA CUP: Third round, second leg: Galatasaray (Turk) 3, AS Roma 2 (agg. 4-5); NEVILLIE OVEREND COMBINATION: First division: Fulham 1, Millwall 6; Second division: Cardiff 1, Swindon 5; FA VASE: Second round replay: Atherton Collieries 2, Worsborough Bridge 1.

ANGLO-ITALIAN CUP: Group A: Bari 3, Newcastle United 0; Birmingham City 1, Ascoli 1; Cesena 0, Brentford 1; Portsmouth 2, Lucchese 1; Group B: Bristol City 1, Reggina 2; Cosenza 0, West Ham United 1; Derby County 1, Cremonese 3; Pisa 0, Tranmere Rovers 1.

AUTOGASS TROPHY: First round: Rotherham 3, Wigan 1; Arsenal 3, Wrexham 1; Burnley 1, Cardiff City 3; Huddersfield 1, Chester 1; Stockport County 3, Crewe Alexandra 0; Wrexham 3, Exeter City 5; Torquay United 0, Gillingham 3; Fulham 3, Huddersfield United 4; Scarborough 1, Rotherham United 3; Southampton United 1, Walsall 2; Mansfield Town 0, York City 0; First City 2, Mansfield Town 0.

GM VALUABLE CONFERENCE: Welling 1, Wolves 1.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE: First division: Cowdenbeath 2, Ayr United 2; Hamilton Academical 2, Dundee 0.

TENNIS SCOTCH CUP: First round: Dundee 1, Perth 1; Perth 1, Dundee 1.

UEFA CUP: Third round, second leg: Arsenal 1, Paris Saint-Germain 1 (agg. 1-1); Saint-Germain win on away goals; Kaiserslautern (Ger) 0, Ajax 1 (agg. 0-3); Real Zaragoza 2, Borussia Dortmund 1.

POINTS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Manchester City 2, Manchester United 1; Sheffield Wednesday 2, Sunderland 2; Second division: Coventry 1, Sunley 1.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Southern division: Haringey 0, Ashford 4; St Albans 2, Boreham Wood 1.

DADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: St Albans 2, Boreham Wood 1.

England tour to go ahead

THE management committee of the Hockey Association decided yesterday to go ahead with plans for England's participation in the India Gandhi tournament, due to start in Bombay on January 8 (Sydney Friskin writes).

There had been speculation about withdrawal because of the recent political disturbances in India, particularly around Bombay. Organisers have given no indication of whether the tournament will be called off if the situation worsens.

England are due to face Australia, Holland, Spain, Malaysia, India and Russia in the tournament.

RESULTS: England 2-0 India, 2-0 Malaysia, 2-0 Australia, 2-0 Holland, 2-0 Spain, 2-0 Russia.

RESULTS: England 2-0 India, 2-0 Malaysia, 2-0 Australia, 2-0 Holland, 2-0 Spain, 2-0 Russia.

RESULTS: England 2-0 India, 2-0 Malaysia, 2-0 Australia, 2-0 Holland, 2-0 Spain, 2-0 Russia.

RESULTS: England 2-0 India, 2-0 Malaysia, 2-0 Australia, 2-0 Holland, 2-0 Spain, 2-0 Russia.

RESULTS: England 2-0 India, 2-0 Malaysia, 2-0 Australia, 2-0 Holland, 2-0 Spain, 2-0 Russia.

RESULTS: England 2-0 India, 2-0 Malaysia, 2-0 Australia, 2-0 Holland, 2-0 Spain, 2-0 Russia.

RESULTS: England 2-0 India, 2-0 Malaysia, 2-0 Australia, 2-0 Holland, 2-0 Spain, 2-0 Russia.

RESULTS: England 2-0 India, 2-0 Malaysia, 2-0 Australia, 2-0 Holland, 2-0 Spain, 2-0 Russia.

RESULTS: England 2-0 India, 2-0 Malaysia, 2-0 Australia, 2-0 Holland, 2-0 Spain, 2-0 Russia.

RESULTS: England 2-0 India, 2-0 Malaysia, 2-0 Australia, 2-0 Holland, 2-0 Spain, 2-0 Russia.

RESULTS: England 2-0 India, 2-0 Malaysia, 2-0 Australia, 2-0 Holland, 2-0 Spain, 2-0 Russia.

RESULTS: England 2-0 India, 2-0 Malaysia, 2-0 Australia, 2-0 Holland, 2-0 Spain, 2-0 Russia.

RESULTS: England 2-0 India, 2-0 Malaysia, 2-0 Australia, 2-0 Holland, 2-0 Spain, 2-0 Russia.

RESULTS: England 2-0 India, 2-0 Malaysia, 2-0 Australia, 2-0 Holland, 2-0 Spain, 2-0 Russia.

RESULTS: England 2-0 India, 2-0 Malaysia, 2-0 Australia, 2-0 Holland, 2-0 Spain, 2-0 Russia.

SWIMMING

Pickering can prove a point in Sheffield

BY CRAIG LORD

KAREN Pickering has told the Heatley enquiry into Britain's poor performance at the Barcelona Olympic Games that she will never again attend a national squad training camp. The importance of that message is likely to be drummed home at Ponds Forge in Sheffield over the next four days as Pickering attempts to defend all five freestyle titles, from 50 to 800 metres, at the Olympic national short-course championships.

Pickering will have fond memories of the championships in London last year, when she became the first woman to win all five titles. For many of those who raced for a ticket to Barcelona, memories will be grim, a return to the venue for the Olympic trials last June, the most successful and upstart domestic swimming event in memory, yet one that led to such intense disappointment in Spain.

Pickering, one of the few British swimmers to achieve personal best times at the Olympics, regrets having to attend the training camps. During one of them, at Narbonne, she injured her back

when a television cameraman fell into the water on top of her.

In her comments to the Olympic enquiry, chaired by Sir Peter Heatley and due to report by the end of the year, Pickering said: "It is one of my biggest regrets that I went to Narbonne. If I make the European championships team next year, there's no way I'm going on a camp."

In the first sign that the authorities are prepared to discuss training camps, Paul Bush, director of swimming for England and team manager in Barcelona, confirmed that the "whole philosophy is being considered by the Heatley committee".

Meanwhile, over the next four days, Pickering is likely to thrive in her key events of 100 and 200 metres, although Alison Sheppard, in the 50 metres, and Sam Pegg, in the 400 and 800 metres, could stop Pickering repeating her feat of last year.

The dark horse is Sarah Hardcastle, Britain's most successful woman swimmer for three decades, who returns to national competition six years after retiring at 16.

Britain go through

Great Britain yesterday beat Czechoslovakia 2-1 in the first round of the European men's team tennis championships in Trieste, Italy. Mark Pickering lost 7-5, 6-2 to Pavel Vizek but Chris Wilkinson beat Karol Kucera, 6-2, 6-1.

Petchey and Wilkinson then teamed up to defeat Radomir Vasek and Vizek 6-3, 7-6 in the deciding doubles.

RESULTS: Great Britain 2-1 Czechoslovakia.

Baseball: Barry Bonds, formerly of the Pittsburgh Pirates, has become the highest-paid player in the sport by signing a six-year, \$43.75 million (£27 million) contract with San Francisco Giants.

RESULTS: Barry Bonds 6-3 Pittsburgh Pirates.

RESULTS: Barry Bonds 6-3 Pittsburgh Pirates.

RESULTS: Barry Bonds 6-3 Pittsburgh Pirates.

RESULTS: Barry Bonds 6-3 Pittsburgh Pirates.

RESULTS: Barry Bonds 6-3 Pittsburgh Pirates.

RESULTS: Barry Bonds 6-3 Pittsburgh Pirates.

RESULTS: Barry Bonds 6-3 Pittsburgh Pirates.

RESULTS: Barry Bonds 6-3 Pittsburgh Pirates.

PPA POSTAL CLIENTS - WITH THE HOLIDAY PERIOD APPROACHING AND TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT DUE TO POSTAL DELAYS, YES ARE STRONGLY ADVISED TO POST EXTRA EARLY AND IF POSSIBLE TWO OR THREE COUPONS TOGETHER.

LITTLEWOODS POOLS
568 TOP DIVIDENDS OF £4,205 EACH
IN THIS £3.4 Million PAYOUT
WEEK'S CHANCE
24 pts £4,205.10
23 pts £111.50
22 pts £18.75
21 pts £2.30
20 pts £0.95
19 pts £0.30
18 pts £0.10
17 pts £0.05
16 pts £0.02
15 pts £0.01
14 pts £0.01
13 pts £0.01
12 pts £0.01
11 pts £0.01
10 pts £0.01
9 pts £0.01
8 pts £0.01
7 pts £0.01
6 pts £0.01
5 pts £0.01
4 pts £0.01
3 pts £0.01
2 pts £0.01
1 pt £0.01
FOR COUPONS PHONEFREE 0800 300 000 - 24HRS

CHANNEL 4

**Help feed a starving visitor this winter -
join the RSPB.**

Every year, millions of wild birds from Northern Europe come to Britain to survive the harshness of winter. Sadly, our natural environment is disappearing, leaving fewer and fewer refuges to support them.

The RSPB has established over 100 nature reserves where birds - and other wildlife - can rest, feed and shelter. But more are urgently needed.

Please join us today. It will help us to increase Britain's safe havens - and you will receive a FREE birdtable to help the birds who visit your garden this winter.

RSPB, The Lodge, Sandy, Beds SG19 2DL

**YES I want to join
the RSPB this winter.**

To support the RSPB's vital work, I enclose:
☐ £22 (Year's membership for two adults at one address).
☐ £8 (Year's single membership).

Membership benefits: FREE BIRDTABLE, quarterly colour Birds magazine and free entry to over 100 RSPB nature reserves.
(Returned person's rate: £6, and free gift)

I am paying the total of £ by: A5067
☐ Cheque/PO (payable to RSPB) ☐ Access/Visa

Card number: [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
Expiry date: [] [] [] []

Cardholder's signature _____
(Please attach address if different from below)

Mt/Mrs/Miss/Ms _____ (PLEASE PRINT)
Address _____
Postcode _____

Mt/Mrs/Miss/Ms _____ Initials _____
Joiner number/nature: _____

RSPB

Leading golfers under attack

Faldo spares few feelings in critical outburst

By MEL WEBB

NICK Faldo, the world's leading golfer and probably the best player that Britain has produced, has spoken out on the problems of combining success on the course with universal popularity off it.

Faldo, who won nearly £800,000 in Europe during a record-breaking season in which he won the Open Championship for the third time and took four other titles, spares nobody's feelings in an interview to be published in the January issue of *Golf World* magazine.

In it, he talks about his own attitude to the game and the public conception of him, attacks the golfing press and also talks critically about his fellow players, Ian Woosnam and José María Olazábal among them.

Faldo is a man who is driven by a search for perfection in a game that offers little margin for error and in which the dividing line between success and failure is a tortuously narrow one. He is an easy man to admire, not always so easy to like.

He is unrepentant, however, about his desire to succeed. "It is very un-British to win," he said. "Even if you are the nicest guy in the world, you can't please everybody."

At the European Tour dinner on Monday night Faldo collected the Harry Vardon Trophy, awarded to the leading money-winner on the Tour, and also the Ritz Club Golfer of the Year award. By his own confession, he has been trying to smile more on the course this season.

However, he won few friends in the golfing press and beyond when, after winning the Open at Muirfield in July, he hit back at some of his critics in his acceptance speech by saying: "I'd like to thank the press from the bottom of my... well, from the heart of my bottom, anyway."

Five months on, he has no regrets about that remark. "The only pressure I felt came from the media," he said. "I even had TV commentators telling me my putting stroke was wrong. Well, it all came out. I got it off my chest."

"But I made sure I didn't say anything bad about anybody. I thought, if I am going to do it, make sure you don't say what you really feel. Everything I said was totally harmless. The 20,000 people sitting there all laughed. It was all done tongue-in-cheek."

"I am annoyed that some people take it the wrong way because you have to go

through what we go through. I got the last line for once. You never get the last line with the press or with TV."

Turning his attention to his fellow players, he spoke of Woosnam — with whom he had a successful Ryder Cup partnership until they were defeated twice in the match at Kiawah Island last year — as "Mr Powerhouse". "But he's a bit one dimensional on the draw," he said. "He doesn't fake it enough."

Faldo's criticism did not end there. Olazábal, he said, "is going to be held up by his technique because he reverse-pivots with a mega-weak grip."

"He is putting his body under unbelievable strain, which is fine when he is 26. But the day that he gets up there to 30 it all changes."

Faldo has kinder things to say about Severiano Ballesteros. "His charisma and style of play have been fantastic for our tour and for golf in general," he said.

Yet, he added, when he met the great Spaniard in the Toyota World Match Play Championship for the first time, he looked at his opponent's swing and told himself that it would not last 36 holes. He told himself that Ballesteros would make mistakes and that he should be patient. "And sure enough, it worked," Faldo said.

Whatever else, Faldo has never been a man to duck issues. In going on the record so critically about his fellow players, however, he stands to lose a little of even their respect.

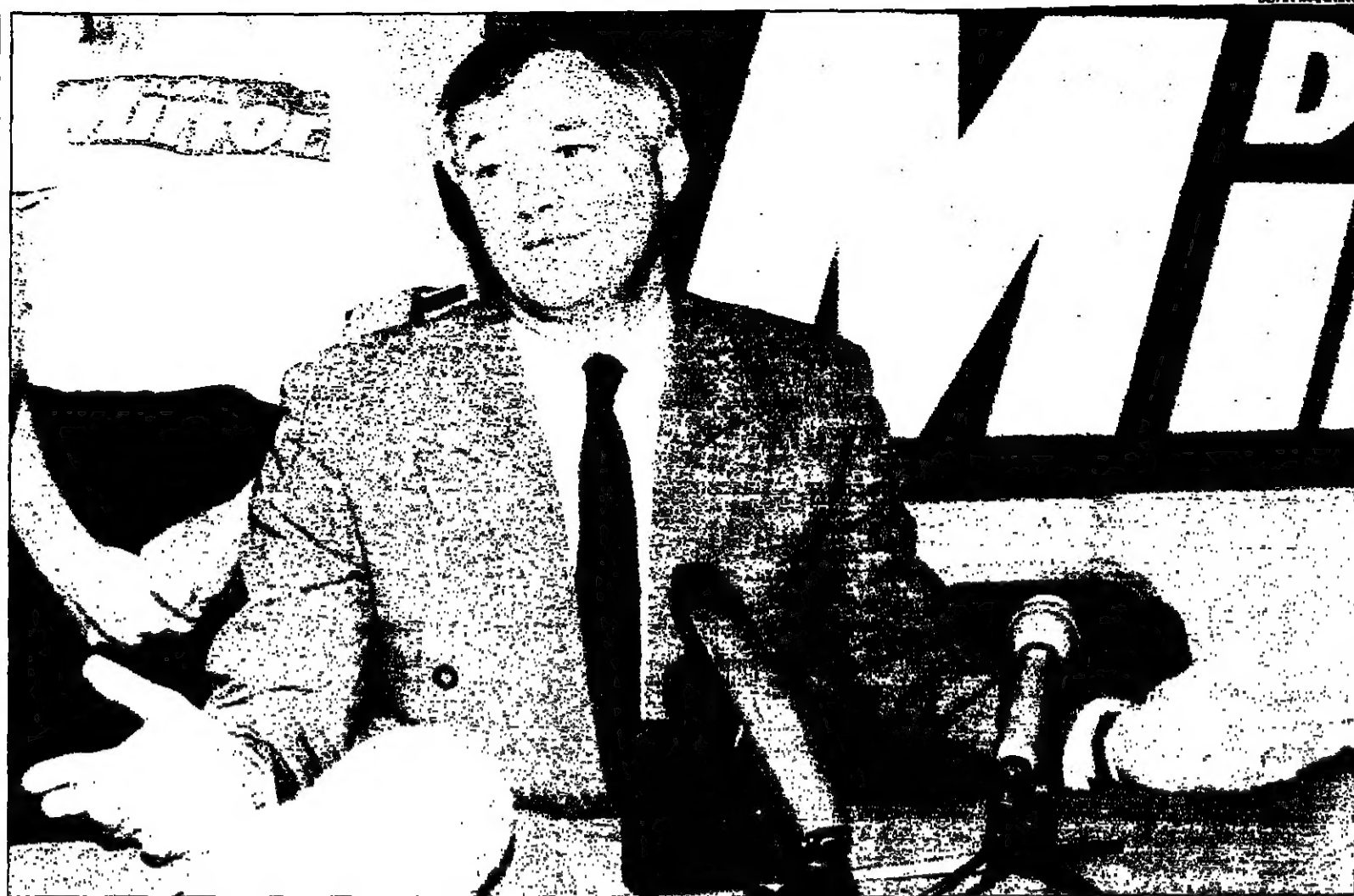
Solheim Cup side tastes more success

THE European Solheim Cup women's team has beaten Nick Faldo, the Open champion and world No. 1 player, to win the Golf Writers' Trophy for 1992. The side, inspired on the course by Laura Davies and off it by Mickey Walker, beat the United States 11-6½ at Dalmahoy in October.

The award is given to the golfer or golfers who, in the opinion of the writers, made an outstanding contribution for Europe during the year.

Walker, who won the trophy as Britain's leading woman amateur player in 1972, said: "I'm delighted for my team and for women's professional golf, too. Ours is a sport that does not get much publicity and it is fantastic that the writers should recognise the team's achievement."

It is the fifth time in eight years that a team has taken the award.



Empty-handed: Barry Hearn, the promoter, explains the absence of Nigel Benn from a news conference yesterday before his World Boxing Council super-middleweight title defence against Nicky Piper at Alexandra Palace in London on Saturday.

Benn arrived in England yesterday from his Tenerife training camp and flatly refused to meet the media.

despite being reminded by Hearn of his contractual obligations. Benn could now be fined, and Hearn plans to meet him face to face to discuss his non-appearance.

"What happens next depends on my negotiations with Nigel," Hearn said. "He is obviously tense and focused on his first defence; all fighters would be. Unfortunately, he

has forgotten the golden rule that you have got to sell a fight as well as fight a fight. "It is unprofessional. I don't expect this kind of behaviour from anybody, least of all a world champion. He was told through his commercial manager seven days ago that he would be required today. When I rang him he said he wasn't

coming. There were no excuses whatsoever — none were offered." Benn will be receiving a purse "well into six figures" for fighting Piper, of Wales, having taken the championship from the Italian Mauro Galvano, in Rome two months ago.

Lewis speculation, page 40

Hastings brothers end Exiles' hopes

Edinburgh 20
Scottish Exiles 19

By ALAN LORIMER

EDINBURGH preserved their unbeaten run in the McEwan's Inter-district championship when they beat the Scottish Exiles at Meggetland yesterday by the narrowest of margins. In front of the Scottish selectors, Edinburgh had the satisfaction not only of winning, but also of finishing 2-1 ahead in the try count.

The Exiles, perhaps feeling the effects of a punishing schedule of four games in ten days, could not reproduce the sustained forward pressure they exerted against the South on Saturday. The rolling mauls which were so successful against the Borderers were missing, and this may partly have been due to the decision to leave out Niall Provan and play Iain Morrison and Ian Smith. The two flankers, who play in a similar style, contributed to the Exiles' only try, but Provan's absence appeared to cost them dear in the lineout and in close-quarter play.

The Exiles led 6-3 at half-time, after two penalties by Mark Appleton to one by Ally Donaldson. The game, which had shown signs of animation just before the interval, burst into life at the beginning of the

second half. Scott Hastings crossed for a try for Edinburgh after a move begun by Scott Aitken and carried on by Jock Kerr and Brian Hay-Smith.

The elder of the Hastings brothers, Gavin, then delivered a further blow to the Exiles' hopes when he scored a splendid try, taking a short pass from Donaldson to race in unopposed. Donaldson again converted, and although Appleton put over a third penalty for the Exiles, Donaldson gave Edinburgh an 11-point lead with his fourth successful kick.

The Exiles responded with a try by Brian Gilchrist after clever interplay between Mark Sly and Smith. Sly added the conversion and with three minutes remaining, Appleton narrowed the gap to a point with another penalty, but the Exiles could not make any further impression.

SCORING: Edinburgh: Try: S Hastings; G Hastings; Conversion: Donaldson (2); Penalty goals: Donaldson (2), Scottish Exiles: Try: Gilchrist; Conversion: Sly; Penalty goals: Appleton (4). EDINBURGH: S Hastings (Wasposians, captain), J Kerr (Hastings), S Hastings (Wasposians), D Wylie (Stewart's Mobile), P. C. Glasgow (Hastings), A. Donaldson (Cairns), J. Robertson (Edinburgh Academicals), D Wilson (Edinburgh Academicals), B Brown (Boroughmuir), P Wright (Boroughmuir), S Aitken (Wasposians), M Rodkin (Wasposians), A Macdonald (Hastings), J. Robertson (Hastings), S. Reid (Boroughmuir). SCOTTISH EXILES: Iain Morrison (Wasposians), M Appleton, I. Bennett, F. Harold, M Sly, D Christie (Glasgow); R. Cramo (Glasgow), D. Millard, A. Sharp (Glasgow), B. Gilchrist, P. Burns, J. Smith (Glasgow), D. Cronin, A. Reid (Bath), J. Morrison, D. McNeill (Forrester). Referee: K. McCartney (Hastings).

Williams fined in France

THE French grand prix could be scrapped next year and the Formula One motor racing championship calendar heavily revised because of a law banning cigarette advertising.

The future of the French race, the oldest grand prix, is expected to be added as an emergency item to the agenda when the International Motor Sports Federation (Fisa) meets in Paris today.

The race at Magny-Cours on July 4 is under threat because of the actions of the French anti-smoking lobby and a provincial court judgment against Britain's Williams team for carrying cigarette adverts at the Australian grand prix in Adelaide last month.

Williams was fined £3.5 million and now runs the risk of having its cars and equipment seized if it travels into or across France — unless it pays the fine or wins an appeal. Frank Williams said: "This is a very serious situation and one we are looking at very closely."

A court in Brittany ruled against Williams and in support of the elimination of all tobacco advertising — not only on French territory but also in other countries when beamed into France on television.

Mansell's rethink, page 40

Grobelaar prepares to end Anfield career

BRUCE Grobelaar is ready to leave Liverpool after 11 years at Anfield. Grobelaar has recently been on the substitutes' bench, first losing his goalkeeping place to David James and then to Mike Hooper.

Now, according to national newspaper reports yesterday, the Zimbabwean, 35, accepts that his career on Merseyside is over.

"I have slowly realised that I am not in Liverpool's plans for the future," Grobelaar is quoted as saying. "I love the club so much I wanted to play for Liverpool until I was over 40. But I'm disheartened to realise my future is not with Liverpool and life is too short to sit around doing nothing."

Grobelaar, due to play for

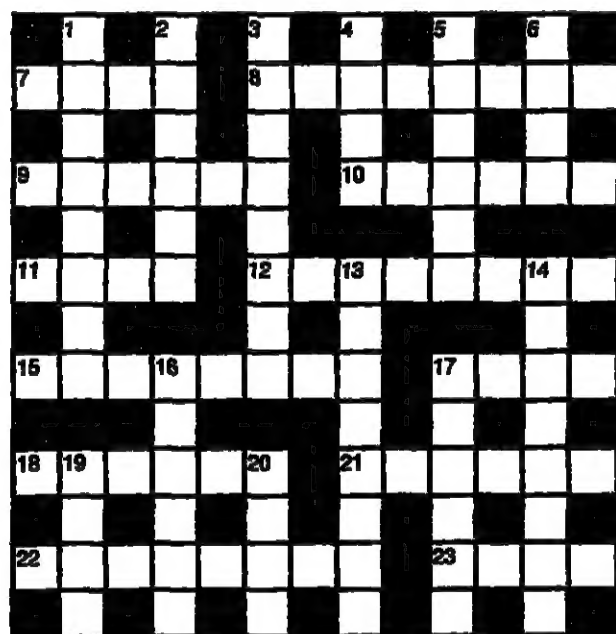
Zimbabwe in a World Cup qualifying match against Egypt in Harare on Sunday week, has hardly been out of the news since succeeding Ray Clemence.

Signed for £250,000 from Vancouver Whitecaps in 1981, he has made 591 appearances, conceded 489 goals, kept 254 clean sheets and played a big part in helping Liverpool win 13 major trophies.

Grobelaar, who still has 18 months of his contract to run at Anfield, is keen to continue his career in England, but he added: "If all doors are closed to me in this country, I'm willing to play abroad."

"I'm prepared to go anywhere. I will give 100 per cent to whoever I play for."

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 2967



ACROSS

- 7 Ring (4)
- 8 White Rhine wine (8)
- 9 Grand Canal city (6)
- 10 Riverbed scraper (6)
- 11 Lean over (4)
- 12 US lorry driver (8)
- 13 Ninepins (8)
- 14 Clothes pest (4)
- 15 Malleable (6)
- 21 Character (6)
- 22 Steelmaker's vessel (8)
- 23 Bolt partners (4)

DOWN

- 1 Unorthodox type (8)
- 2 Off course (6)
- 3 Far Eastern (8)
- 4 Vendetta (4)
- 5 Grippiers (6)
- 6 Cosy (4)
- 13 Someone not present (8)
- 14 Whole (8)
- 15 Hypnotic state (6)
- 17 Naval rebellion (6)
- 19 Master (4)
- 20 London Underground (4)

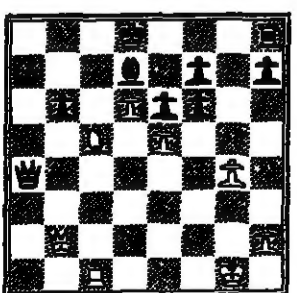
SOLUTIONS TO NO 2966

ACROSS: 1 Scrag 4 Vapours 8 Mythology 9 Car 10 Apt 11 Foolhardy 12 Titch 13 Livid 16 Disarming 18 Ref 20 Lit 21 Induction 22 Riposte 23 Loyal
DOWN: 1 Samba 2 Rataat 3 Go off the rails 4 Voodoo 5 Psychological 6 Ulfur 7 Sprayed 12 Tiddler 14 Varsity 15 Middle 17 Set up 19 Final

WINNING MOVE

By RAYMOND KEENE, Chess Correspondent

This position is a variation taken from the game Plaskett — Mestel, Foreign & Colonial Hastings Premier 1986/87. Jim Plaskett is one of England's most dangerous attacking grandmasters. How did he force checkmate here? This year's Hastings tournament features the Hungarian prodigy Judit Polgar. Further details from the British Chess Federation on 0424 442500. Solution on page 39.



CROSSWORD ENTHUSIASTS: For mail order details of all Times Crossword Books and The Times Computer Crossword software with help levels, (runs on most PCs), call Alton Ltd on 081 852 4575 (24 hrs) or CDs on 0302 890000 - STOP PRESS! just released - the First Book of The Times Jumbo Concise Crosswords - ring Alton.

WORD-WATCHING

By PHILIP HOWARD

YUKE

- a. To play the ukulele
 - b. To itch
 - c. A Ukrainian American
- VALI**
a. Sicilian for farewell
b. A Turkish governor
c. To look after men's clothes

Answers on page 39

PADROADIST

- a. A sugar daddy
 - b. A Portuguese Catholic sectarian
 - c. A jogger
- NEPENTHES**
a. A soothing drug
b. Nethermost Hell
c. Rhetorical sarcasm for effect

Women earn equal rights to race

By DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

MALE athletes are no longer safe from that greatest of ignominies — losing to a woman — after the decision announced yesterday to let the fairer sex loose on men's events in graded track and field meetings. Kriss Akabusi against Sally Gunnell at 400 metres hurdles? Unlikely but at least the rules now allow it.

British women, as Joan Allison, the national team manager, made clear two years ago, have had a raw deal in racing opportunities. Allison came away from the 1990 European championships in Split, after the British men had won eight gold medals and the women one, complaining the same opportunities were not there for women.

Yesterday, Gwenda Ward, a member of the women's advisory group that was behind the move to persuade the British Athletic Federation (BAF) to let women compete on the track against men, said: "We can trace this back to Joan's outburst." The BAF described its announcement as "evolutionary" although, of course, women have been running on the roads against men for years.

It does not mean that women will compete against men in the national championships nor in local leagues. Its usefulness to women lies mainly in providing improved scope for setting personal best performances.

In the case of the best British women athletes, finding good domestic opposition to enhance self-improvement can be difficult whereas running against men may be more likely to bring them on.

"This is really good news," Alison Wyeth, the Barcelona Olympic 3,000 metres finalist and International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) project manager, said. It would provide her, she said, with opportunities to sharpen up at 800 metres that she would otherwise not have.

She does not expect the men to behave like gentlemen towards her. "When you race against men, it can be rough: sometimes because men do not like being beaten by women. But I think that is good."

Christina Cahill, second to Zola Pieterse in the all-time British 1,500 metres rankings, believes she would have

run closer to 3min 55sec than the 4:00.57 she accomplished in 1984 had this new option been open to her.

A senior BAF officer said: "With the exception of Fatima Whitbread, women have been relegated to second-rate status in the promotion of athletics — not taken seriously and shown only because they look good on television."

IAAF rules state that performances in mixed races are invalid for record purposes but the governing body is

unlikely to object to Britain's unilateral step.

"We have got to be sensible in our policing. We would not rush on to the track and stop it," an IAAF spokeswoman said.

Ward wants the BAF to recognise performances for record and international team selection purposes. "I can see no reason why they should not be ratified as British records and I think it is something that could be taken up at IAAF level," he said.

David Bedford, the BAF secretary and former 10,000 metres world record-holder, has been a loyal advocate of the women's advisory group. He said that performances would be accepted by the IAAF for international championship team selection.

He said: "The rule change is part of a serious move to allow senior women internationally to have competition at the relevant level in the UK rather than struggle to gain it overseas where neither funds nor the will of international promoters allow it. The object is to encourage women's development as equals in an equal society."



Allison: firm advocate

Can you solve this puzzle as fast as Einstein?

7	6		7
3			62
	6		44
	433		
34411			

Each line of five numbers must total 25. Place a number into each empty square in order to complete the grid. If you can complete this without using a calculator fill in the coupon below.

Complete this coupon and post to Mensa, FREEPOST, Wolverhampton, WV2 1BR.

Name _____

Address _____

P.Code _____

Mensa

7/11/92